

Giving birth
without pain

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הכרזה מן האהל

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Mikardo—
last angry
young
Socialist
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Lowest inflation rate since 1969

CPI for January drops 1.3 per cent

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The Consumer Price Index dropped 1.3 per cent last month—the lowest inflation rate since August 1969, according to figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics on Friday.

The cumulative inflation rate for the last three months, the figures showed, was 0.5 per cent. This translates into an annual rate of about 2 per cent, lower than the rate in most Western Europe.

Economic observers pointed out that if current trends in the domestic and international markets continue, the present stability is likely to last for the next few months. But they warned that inflation would be spurred if the government injects money into troubled sectors and companies.

The drop in prices brought the CPI to 134.5 points on a 1985=100 baseline. In January the bureau abandoned the old baseline, based

on the average CPI of 1980 in favour of one based on the average CPI of 1985. The new baseline takes into account the changes in the relative weight accorded the items in the basket of goods used to determine the CPI. Had an adjustment been made to account for the change in the relative weights, the observers said, the drop in the index for January would have been even larger, 1.6 per cent.

Salaried workers this month are to receive an increment of some 3.9 per cent in their gross wages. The pay rise includes a 3.5 per cent increase agreed upon last July between the Histadrut and the employers and a 0.4 per cent cost-of-living allowance to compensate for the inflation of the last three months.

But the increase in net wages will apparently be less than 3.9 per cent since the Treasury does not intend to adjust income-tax brackets.

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Budget clash at cabinet today?

\$750m. in U.S. aid due any day, Peres says

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Post Labour Reporter

TEL AVIV.—The U.S. is due to transfer an additional \$750 million in economic aid to Israel "any day now," Prime Minister Peres said last night. The grant will be the second and final instalment of a \$1.5 billion emergency package approved last year.

Addressing a conference of Labour Party development town representatives here, Peres said that he was sure that the Reagan administration would agree to participate in a projected fund to assist economic growth in Israel. He added that the matter would be discussed when he visited Washington in early April.

Peres said that he hoped to meet with Jewish philanthropists in the U.S. to elicit their assistance for Israel's distressed areas. Letters had been sent last week to 17 philanthropists inviting them to a meeting, he said.

Peres reiterated his belief that the process of economic growth should begin immediately. He stressed that growth would not be funded by printing of money or diverting resources budgeted for other purposes.

He listed three possible sources of financing and investment for economic growth: the \$4 billion in savings held by the public; the withdrawal of

the state from the capital market; and the so-called \$100m. in savings resulting from the decline in oil prices.

Peres did not refer to the political storm that broke out last week between Labour and the Likud over the subject of economic growth and the draft budget for the next fiscal year.

But MK Rafi Edri, chairman of Labour's Knesset caucus, attacked coalition executive chairman Haim Kaufman (Likud) for saying at the weekend that Labour's opposition to the budget was based on its desire to provoke a coalition crisis to avoid the rotation of the premiership.

Finance Minister Moda'i is today to present to the cabinet the package of legislation that is necessary to implement the measures called for in the 1986-87 budget. Some of the measures are strongly opposed by Labour MKs. The budget has already passed its first reading in the Knesset.

The measures include a \$60-\$120 education levy, and taxation of child allowances and old age pensions.

Of the \$15m. earmarked for assistance to the country's development towns, over \$6m. had been transferred by Likud ministers to settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. As a result, said the development

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King's new parliament to boost Palestinians

By YEHUDA LITANI
Middle East Affairs Editor

King Hussein of Jordan, in a move designed to further pressure the PLO to accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338, is expected to speed up a plan to more than double the size of his parliament.

Turning the 60-member body into a parliament of 130, as Hussein intends, will necessitate the appointment of new Palestinian representatives and thus entail increased Jordanian activity in the West Bank. PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's main base of support. Such activity could in turn destabilize that support.

By increasing Palestinian representation, Hussein will lay the ground for a claim that his parliament is as representative of the Palestinians as the PLO. Further, if the PLO continues intransigent, Hussein could rely on the parliament to substitute for the organization in any peace talks.

The king is expected to make the enlargement plan public in a speech early this week, well-informed sources said. The speech is also expected to reveal details of the king's latest talks with Arafat.

The Jordanian parliament is divided equally between the East and West Banks. Under the enlargement plan, already approved by a government committee and soon to be submitted for parliamentary approval, the East Bank will have 65 representatives, the West Bank, 56, and the Palestinian refugee camps around Amman, nine.

The sources said that Hussein would not go so far as to publicly denounce the PLO's leadership, despite his bitter disappointment over Arafat's refusal to recognize UN Resolutions 242 and 338. But, they said, he was ready to try indirect pressure on the PLO to accept the resolutions.

Meanwhile, the first Jordanian reaction to Prime Minister Shimon Peres's plan for devolution in the West Bank appeared last Thursday in the semi-official *Al-Rai* paper. In an editorial, the paper predicted that "just as Israel failed to directly involve additional Arab states in the Camp David agreements, it will also fail to win the support of any Arab state for this autonomy plan."

'Iraqi pilots at U.S. base'

BAGHDAD.—Iraqi pilots have been training since the beginning of the month at the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force base at Diyarbakir in eastern Turkey, according to the Turkish newspaper *Al-Ahram al-Islami*. The paper, monitored by Iran, quoted sources in the Turkish Islamic Movement.



Parliament member Insee Marcos Manotoc, daughter of President Ferdinand Marcos, leads the cheers from the floor of the National Assembly yesterday as her father is declared winner of the February 7 election. Opposition members walked out.

(Reuters telephoto)

Arafat welcomes U.S. stand on 'rights'

Jerusalem Post Staff and Agencies

CAIRO.—PLO leader Yasser Arafat on Saturday praised last week's statement by a U.S. State Department official recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people beyond the refugee status contained in UN Security Council Resolution 242. Arafat said it was "an important and positive step forward."

Arafat spoke to reporters after a 90-minute meeting with Premier Ali Lutfy who also welcomed the American statement and said Arafat had asked Egypt to relay to Washington three PLO alternative proposals.

The U.S. statement, issued by the State Department on Monday, acknowledged that Arab-Israeli peace negotiations must "recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people." It said that any settlement of the future of the Israel-occupied West Bank and Gaza district inhabited by 1.3 million Palestinians must have their "prior consent."

The statement is a positive step forward in that it refers for the first time to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and establishes a link between them and Resolutions 242 and 338. Arafat said, echoing the Egyptian view stated by President Mubarak on Thursday. The remark was a far cry from comment by Arafat on the U.S. position when he arrived in Cairo on Thursday. He said then that the

inconclusive talks he had held in Amman with King Hussein and other leaders had "stopped because of American intransigence and bias for the Israeli positions, which denies the right to exist for 5 million Palestinians (worldwide)."

Arafat has spurned the U.S. pledge to include the PLO in peace talks with Israel, in return for acceptance of Resolutions 242 and 338, fearing that the involvement will not go beyond the initial phase and that the organization would be excluded from the real talks, a leading Israeli expert on the PLO told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The PLO Executive Committee is expected to convene this week in Baghdad to hear a report on the negotiations held recently with Jordan, Egypt and, indirectly, with the U.S., Palestinian sources have reported.

All the PLO leaders were united behind the demand that the U.S.

(Continued on Page 7)

Opposition walkout as result announced

Pope, Reagan blast Marcos's fraudulent win

MANILA.—The Philippine parliament yesterday proclaimed President Ferdinand Marcos winner of last week's election against opposition candidate Corason Aquino, less than a minute after a mass walk-out by pro-Aquino members in protest against what they charged were fraudulent elections.

Their charges were yesterday supported by President Ronald Reagan who said the credibility of the election was questionable because of the widespread fraud and violence, committed largely by Marcos supporters. The Vatican also supported the allegations of fraud.

In a statement issued as he prepared to return to Washington from Santa Barbara, Reagan called on Filipinos to avoid violence and seek peaceful ways to bring stability to their troubled country.

Reagan said the U.S. delegation that had observed the election had not completed its work, but "it has already become evident, sadly, that the elections were marred by widespread fraud and violence perpetrated largely by the ruling party. It was so extreme that the election's credibility has been called into question both within the Philippines and in the U.S."

The Vatican, in an unprecedented move, backed the Philippine Roman Catholic church in its condemnation of the ballot.

"In such a delicate and complex situation, (the Holy See) can only trust the bishops, inspired by their pastoral responsibility in the full awareness of the situation," said Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro Valls.

In a conference on Friday, 80 of the Philippines' 120 bishops denounced the February 7 presidential poll and backed the opposition's call for a civil disobedience campaign.

The Vatican's implicit rejection of Marcos was considered unprecedented. In the past the Holy See has always waited for reactions from the international community before

taking a position in local political crises.

Representative Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, said he would like to cut off U.S. military and economic aid "pending the establishment of a legitimate government which has the confidence of the Filipino people." Humanitarian aid should be channelled through the Catholic Church and private voluntary organizations, he said.

The re-election of Marcos by the National Assembly controlled by his party was announced a few hours after it finished tallying results from 140 centres across the country.

Most of the results were challenged by the opposition as fraudulent.

The official tally credited Marcos with 10,807,197 votes against Aquino's 9,291,716.

Opposition members accused the ruling party of "railroading" the proclamation in the face of their challenges against the official vote count, some sheets of which had neither seals nor signatures.

The Catholic bishops conference in its statement said a government that assumed or retained power through fraudulent means had no moral basis.

Aquino, the 53-year-old widow of Benigno Aquino, a Marcos rival who was gunned down at Manila Airport in 1983, waged a courageous campaign against Marcos, the "No. 1 suspect" in her husband's murder.

U.S. government sources said as many as 30 per cent of the voters had been disfranchised because of fraud and manipulation that had cost Aquino at least three million votes.

Aquino yesterday said: "Even before I am finally declared winner of this election, I think we can all agree who is the biggest loser—Mr. Marcos."

A citizens' election watchdog group said yesterday it would press ahead with an unofficial count that had Aquino leading president Marcos.

(Reuters, AFP, AP)

5-10% drop
seen in fuel prices

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

Fuel prices are due to go down by approximately 5 per cent this week, Treasury sources said yesterday. The prices of fuel for industry are to be reduced by up to 10 per cent.

The officials said that Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i had finally agreed to the price cut, after several months of opposition, following the latest reduction in the price of oil by Mexico and Egypt, Israel's largest suppliers.

Shcharanskys stay home on first Shabbat

Jerusalem Post Staff
Anatoly and Avital Shcharansky remained in their borrowed Kiryat Moshe flat all day yesterday and did not break their isolation even to accept the nearby Mercaz Harav synagogue's invitation to recite the *gamel blessing* customary following escape from danger.

Friends guarding their flat treated the couple like newlyweds and provided home-cooked meals for them. It is understood that the Shcharanskys are to leave today for a few weeks' vacation at an undisclosed spot.

On the Friday night *Mabat* TV newscast, Anatoly said that in addition to improving his Hebrew, he was determined to study Arabic.

Replying to a question about his dreams and hopes, Anatoly said "that as many Jews as possible come to live in Israel, and that one day we may have peace in this land." It was in this connection that he said he felt it important that he learn Arabic.

Reuters adds from Moscow that two Jewish scientists have had their 15-year-old request to emigrate to Israel reviewed after an appeal by U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy.

Isai Goldstein told correspondents in a telephone call from Tbilisi that he and his brother Grigory had been summoned to a meeting at the local passport office on Friday.

"We were told of orders from Moscow that our request was to be reconsidered," he said. "Officials said that such an order almost certainly meant we would get permission to leave."

The Goldsteins were among 25 refuseniks named by Kennedy during a visit to Moscow earlier this month.

London 'Observer' exclusives Sakharov letters describe torture sessions in Gorky

By JERRY LEWIS
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON.—On instructions from the KGB, Soviet doctors tried to convince Andrei Sakharov that he was suffering from Parkinson's disease, according to letters written by the dissident Soviet physicist published here today.

Sakharov says that the doctors' action was part of the psychological and physical abuse he was subjected to in 1984 when he was hunger-striking in internal exile in Gorky in an effort to win permission for his wife to travel to the U.S. for medical treatment.

The letters, in which he describes his ordeal, were written in 1984 and smuggled to relatives in the U.S. last week. His wife, Yelena Bonner, was permitted to go to the U.S. late last year, and is recuperating from heart surgery there.

Extracts of Sakharov's letters which appear in today's *Observer* describe how he was seized on May 7, 1984 by KGB men disguised as doctors. He was taken by force to Gorky Regional Hospital, kept there forcibly, and tormented by the KGB for four months, he wrote.

His attempts to flee the hospital were always blocked by KGB men, he added.

"From 11 May to 27 May I was subjected to the excruciating and

degrading process of forced feeding. The doctors hypocritically called it saving my life. They were acting under orders from the KGB to create conditions in which my demand for my wife to be allowed to travel would not have been fulfilled.

"They kept changing the method of force-feeding. They wanted to maximize my distress to make me give up the hunger strike," Sakharov wrote.

He went on to describe intravenous feeding. "Orderlies would throw me onto the bed, tie my hands and feet and then hold my shoulders down while the needle was inserted into a vein."

On May 11, the first day the force-feeding was attempted, one of the hospital aides sat on his legs while a substance was injected with a small syringe. Sakharov passed out.

When he came to, he was suffering hallucinations.

From May 25-27, he said, "The most excruciating, degrading and barbarous method was used." After his hands and feet had been tied, a clamp was placed on his nose so he could breathe only through his mouth. "Whenever I opened my mouth to take a breath, a spoon of nutriment or broth containing strange meat would be poured in."

(Continued on Page 7)

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| | 15.2.86 | 16.2.86 | 17.2.86 | 18.2.86 | 19.2.86 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| AMSTERDAM | -2 | -1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| BELGIUM | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| BREMEN | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| BRUSSELS | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| CHICAGO | -12 | -11 | -10 | -9 | -8 |
| COPENHAGEN | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| FRANKFURT | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| GENEVA | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| HAMBURG | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| HONGKONG | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| JERUSALEM | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| LONDON | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| MADRID | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| MUNICH | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| NEW YORK | -12 | -11 | -10 | -9 | -8 |
| OSLO | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| PARIS | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| ROME | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| STOCKHOLM | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| TORONTO | -12 | -11 | -10 | -9 | -8 |
| ZURICH | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy with chance of local showers in the morning.

| | Yesterday's | Yesterday's | Today's |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| | Humidity | Min-Max | Max |
| Jerusalem | 95 | 2-8 | 11 |
| Golan | — | — | — |
| Nahariya | — | — | — |
| Safed | 86 | 3-8 | 10 |
| Haifa Port | 59 | 10-16 | 17 |
| Tiberias | 48 | 8-18 | 17 |
| Nazareth | — | — | — |
| Atula | 55 | 9-17 | 12 |
| Shomron | 76 | 20-22 | 13 |
| Tel Aviv | 62 | 10-16 | 17 |
| B-G Airport | 59 | 9-15 | 17 |
| Jericho | 60 | 10-18 | 19 |
| Gaza | 69 | 12-17 | 18 |
| Beersheba | 55 | 6-12 | 16 |
| Eilat | 26 | 11-20 | 21 |

10 hurt in bomb blast

Six people were lightly injured and four were treated for shock when a bomb exploded on Friday on the Dan No. 66 bus line from Petah Tikva to Ramat Gan. Police arrested several suspects.

Police described the bomb as "medium-sized" and said the device had probably been hidden in the waste basket in the rear of the bus.

Five persons were treated for minor wounds and later released. Yolanda Solar, 55 of Ramat Gan, who sustained deep cuts to the arm, is expected to be released this morning from Beilinson Hospital. Four others were treated for shock and later released.

THE ISRAELI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT No. 5

Concert version of the opera **LA BOHEME** by **PUCINI**
SCOTT BERGESON Conductor
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REVITAL HAHAMOFF Piano
ILAN ESHED Trumpet
TEL AVIV, Mann Auditorium
Wednesday, 19.2.86, 5.00 p.m.

SPECIAL CONCERT

an Omerut La'am performance
SHALOM RONLY-RIKLIS Conductor
SHIMUEL SEGAL Narrator
ITZHAK MARKOVITSKY Violin
part of the 30th anniversary programme of Dimona
DIMONA Eilat Cinema
Thursday, 20.2.86, 6.30 p.m.

HOME NEWS

Beirut Moslem group kills another Jew

BEIRUT (AP). — A local extremist Moslem group yesterday said it had killed one of three Lebanese Jews it had captured, and had "broken an Israeli spy ring."

Two months ago, the group, the Organization of the Oppressed on Earth, said it killed two of four other Jews it had admitted kidnapping, and the bodies of the two were later found in Beirut.

The group, which claims it still holds Isaac Sasson, 59, the head of Lebanon's shrunken Jewish community, and Elie Srour, 68, an electrical engineer, yesterday identified the man it had now killed as Ibrahim Benesti, and the other two men recently captured as Yehuda Benesti and Youssef Benesti.

Spokesmen of the Higher Council of Lebanon's Jews say that three other Jews have been kidnapped in Moslem West Beirut. It identified them as Elie Hallak, 52, Youssef Tineisti, 33, and Salim Murad Jamous, 51, all missing for several months to a year.

The organization, believed made up of Moslem fundamentalists, sent polaroid photographs with yesterday's communiqué.

One photo showed an elderly man with a white beard. The other two showed balding, middle-aged men with beards and scars on their foreheads and faces.

The organization said Ibrahim Benesti was slain in revenge for Israel's occupation of a border belt of South Lebanon, the "violation of the al-Aksa mosque in Jerusalem," and the shelling of Shiite Moslem villages in South Lebanon.

Earlier statements from the group demanded the release of some 300 Shiites and other Lebanese rounded up in South Lebanon by Israel and by the South Lebanon Army.

Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld came to Beirut last month to offer herself as a substitute for the missing Jews, but she left last Sunday, her mission a failure. She said: "My offer to be taken by the kidnappers so they release the hostages has been turned down."

'No crisis,' but not much progress either at Taba talks

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

A senior Foreign Ministry source last night denied that there was any crisis in the Taba and normalization talks between Israel and Egypt. The source was commenting on speculation about a possible crisis in the talks, which stemmed from the postponement of their renewal until the beginning of March.

The senior source, saying that the talks would be resumed on or about March 3, said that things were going "exactly as expected." He said that "there were serious differences of opinion, expected and legitimate, but certainly there was no crisis."

The differences focused on the major problems of the *compromis*. The source explained that the need for postponement was due to the feeling on both sides that the material accumulated over the past two rounds of talks needed to be studied and worked upon.

The central achievement in the field of normalization of relations was an Egyptian invitation to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir and a team of ministry experts to visit Egypt in the near future.

Regarding the Egyptian demand that the Egyptian Coptic Church regain control of the Deir al Sultan chapel in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre from the Ethiopian Church, the Israeli delegation agreed that the problem "would be addressed by the Israeli authorities."

Progress was apparently also made during talks on various technical aspects of the Taba *compromis*.

The agreed document outlining the terms of reference of the arbitration. But the main problems of the *compromis* — concerning the character and length of time of the conciliation process at the start of the arbitration, the wording of the "question" (regarding sovereignty in the disputed border areas) and rights of access and ownership in the Taba area after the arbitration award — remained wide open.

On Friday, the heads of the two delegations met Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, at Rabin's request. Almost the whole 90-minute session was devoted to Egyptian questions and Israeli answers on the "quality of life" in the administered territories.

Rabin, according to Defence Ministry sources, gave a detailed survey of Israel's assistance to the Arabs in the territories in such fields as health, agriculture and municipal administration.

Egyptian head of delegation Nabil al Arabi asked about Israeli deportation of Palestinians and the demolition of terrorists' houses. Rabin, in his response, mentioned that he had been arrested under the same Defence Emergency regulations (under the British) which were the legal basis for Israeli anti-terrorist measures in the territories. Al Arabi reportedly smiled.

Friday afternoon the Egyptians visited, and prayed in the al Aksa mosque, in Jerusalem.

Egypt holds 2 Israeli seamen on hashish charge

HAIFA. — Two stewards on the Zim container ship *Camelia* were arrested in Alexandria on Thursday, on suspicion of trying to buy hashish.

The Zim spokesman said here that Shalom Peretz, 35, and Amram Chelouché, 53, had failed to return to their ship when it was due to sail at noon on Thursday.

Enquiries with the Egyptian authorities and the Israeli representatives in Egypt established that the men had been arrested after having allegedly been found in possession of hashish.

Peretz, who has been working on Zim ships for eight years, has three children. Chelouché, who has 10 years' seniority, is the father of four.

Airlines ask tax exemption for visiting yordim

Post Aviation Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Airlines operating here have appealed to the government to exempt Israelis residing abroad from paying travel tax when they return from visits to Israel. This should help fill empty seats in the aircraft and overcome the current slump in tourism, they said.

The appeal, signed by Eduard Frankfurt of TWA on behalf of the panel of airline representatives in Israel, to the ministers of finance, and tourism, said the travel tax was a "major element" for Israeli families abroad considering visits here.

Frankfurt said that last month traffic on TWA from the U.S. dropped by 38 per cent. El Al also confirmed that it had cancelled flights to Cairo, because American tourists, who often take tours of Israel and Egypt, had stayed away.

Kimche leaving on Africa tour

Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche is due to leave this morning for a visit to a number of African capitals in which Israel has embassies or interest sections.

It is understood that the week-long trip will include visits to several francophone countries recently mentioned as candidates for the resumption of full diplomatic relations with Israel. Among those countries are Togo, Gabon and Cameroon.

Court suspends hearings on shipyard receivership

Hearings on a request to place Israel Shipyard in receivership were suspended for a month on Friday by the Jerusalem District Court.

The official receiver, Amram Blum, who asked court to suspend the hearings, explained that recent developments had raised hopes for keeping the yards open.

In Haifa, meanwhile, scores of yard workers, demanding reopening of the plant, blocked a major road junction in the bayside industrial area for about an hour, creating widespread traffic disruptions.

The men burst out of the shipyards after a lengthy general meeting at which they were told that nothing had changed, despite the Ministerial Economic Committee's decision last week not to close the yard.

Police, led by Haifa District Commander Ya'acov Haviv, rushed to the scene where, after lengthy discussions, the demonstrators agreed to disperse.

Setback for Shamir as extra delegates are disallowed

By SARAH HONIG

TEL AVIV. — Yitzhak Shamir and his supporters suffered a setback on Friday when the Herut Party court nullified a controversial central committee decision to allow extra delegates to be co-opted to represent certain party sectors which might not otherwise be represented in the March 9 convention.

There was some consolation for Shamir, though, in the courts' decision to increase the number of "notables" nominated to the convention. Deliberations on the appeal, which had been lodged by the David

Levy and Ariel Sharon camps, lasted from early Friday morning until just before the start of the Sabbath.

Shamir had maintained at the central committee that not all party activity was reflected in the branches and wanted an extra 150 delegates appointed for the convention.

Levy and Sharon insisted in their appeal that such special representation was contrary to the party's democratic image and would import what they termed "dirty Labour Party tricks" in which establishment groups have a reserved quota.

The court agreed.

But the court also held that the special committee to appoint another contingent of extra delegates, of "notable public figures" who might not have run in the branch elections, might now appoint 191 delegates rather than the 150 delegates it was empowered to name. Last week branch members elected 1,400 delegates to the convention.

The Shamir side sees the court ruling as a compromise, since the "notables committee" is controlled by Shamir. Shamir camp sources added that given their side's good showing in the branch elections, the

blow was not as great as might be assumed and Shamir was, anyway, prepared for compromises.

Some observers commented that the court had saved Herut from becoming an oligarchy.

Official results in the internal elections are expected early this week. With most votes already counted, it is becoming increasingly clear that far from suffering the forecast catastrophic defeat, Shamir heads the party's single largest group. Some say that Shamir took over 45 per cent of the vote, with about 35 going to Levy and the remainder to Sharon.

4 Gindi building firms likely to be put into receivership

By BARBARA AMOUYAL

For The Jerusalem Post
Four building companies owned by Moshe and Yigal Gindi, the Tel Aviv-based contractors who left the country in September 1985, are expected to be included in a temporary receivership plan approved last week by Jerusalem Magistrates' Court. A decision on which of their holdings are to be passed on to court-appointed liquidator Haim Zadok was postponed until Tuesday, following a Friday afternoon appeal by the Gindis' lawyer.

Jerusalem Magistrates' Court Judge Ruth Or on Friday dismissed claims that the Gindi-owned Land of Israel Building and Development Company does not exist, and was only registered with the Interior Ministry as a possible future project. Or also dismissed claims that shares in the four companies owned by the Gindi brothers could not be included in the receivership arrangement since the Gindis were not present to defend themselves.

The companies expected to be administered by Zadok include

Land of Israel Building and Development, Initiative and Investments, Moshe and Yigal Gindi Building, and Moshe and Yigal Gindi Urban Building. The receivership arrangement is likely to include all the Gindi brothers' rights for building in the West Bank, as well as their homes in Sayvon.

A \$400,000 lawsuit filed last week in the Jerusalem Magistrates' Court represents over 40 persons who purchased plots in the Ramat Kidron, Nebi Samuel and Givat Ze'ev

areas to which the Gindi's apparently did not hold title.

The suit seeks recovery of the money paid out by the purchasers and "appropriate interest and recompense for mental anguish" incurred as a result of the Gindis' disappearance.

A police source told *The Post* last night that a request has been filed seeking a warrant for apprehending the missing contractors. Latest police reports indicate that the Gindis are in Brazil.

President grants clemency to two Jewish underground men

By DAVID HOROVITZ

Jerusalem Post Reporter
President Herzog has granted clemency to two more members of the Jewish terror underground, Boaz and Ya'acov Heinemann.

The two were released on Thursday, reportedly because they expressed sincere regret for their actions and because they had personal problems.

Boaz Heinemann was scheduled for release in April. Ya'acov Heinemann was to be freed in July, after having been sentenced to 40 months imprisonment for causing grievous bodily harm in the attack on the West Bank mayors, conspiracy to commit a crime in the plot to blow up the Temple Mount, participation in a terrorist organization, and other charges.

Boaz Heinemann, his nephew, received a three-year prison term for conspiracy in the Temple Mount plot, attempted manslaughter in the raid on the Islamic University, attempted murder in the planting of bombs on Arab buses, and membership in a terrorist organization.

Last month, the Justice Ministry dismissed as nonsense reports of imminent presidential clemency for Ya'acov Heinemann, Gilad Peli and Yeshua Ben-Shoshan. Several other members of the underground had their sentences commuted last year.

The Justice Ministry would not comment on the releases, nor on the likelihood of other terror convicts being freed in the near future.

Pardons and clemency are granted by the president on the recommendation of the Justice Minister.

Pension cuts planned

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter
The Treasury is soon to start planning reductions of future pension rights for both salaried workers and the self employed. Ministry officials yesterday confirmed that a committee appointed by Treasury Director General Emmanuel Sharon had last month presented a series of recommendations to reduce future pension payments.

Sharon said that there was no intention of affecting pension rights already accumulated by workers. This means that the pension payments of those who are already retired will not be harmed, and that those currently employed will receive the pension pay they earned in deductions withheld from their salaries up to the present. But, if the plan goes into effect, pension terms in the future will be changed, and pension disbursements will be reduced.

Treasury officials are worried that in some 20 years the pension funds will not be able to honour their commitments if no change is made in the terms of future disbursements.

The Treasury committee has recommended that in future the sums saved in the pension funds be reduced to 1.75 per cent of the workers' wages, instead of the present 2 per cent. Senior government officials have 4 per cent saved for them, but the only recommendations made in their case were that a number of their privileges be cut.

The committee also recommended a uniform retirement age of 65 for men and women; that there should be no early retirement pension for workers still able to work; and that one-time payments be avoided.

Economic observers pointed out that the Treasury's real target could be the "professional training funds" (*kranot hishulmu*) and not pension rights. The observers said that the Treasury might have prepared the report on the pension funds, which are largely controlled by the Histadrut, as a way to pressure the labour federation to agree to the reduction or abolition of the training funds.

Peres said hoping to aid Solel Boneh

By ROY ISACOWITZ

Post Labour Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Prime Minister Peres has decided to become personally involved in the attempts to salvage Solel Boneh, Histadrut sources said yesterday. The ailing Histadrut-owned construction company has debts estimated at \$300 million.

Peres and Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar were due to

confer late last night on ways of saving the company. A further meeting of government, Histadrut and Hevrat Ha'Ovdim officials has been scheduled for tomorrow.

The Histadrut's request for government aid has met with opposition from Likud ministers, who have accused the Labour party of favouring Histadrut enterprises over private concerns.

Turkey pro...er ship captain's death

ANKARA (Reuters). — Turkey lodged a protest with Israel on Friday over the death of a Turkish ship's captain whose vessel was seized by Israel Navy boats last Tuesday off the Gaza Strip.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry statement referred to what it termed "an irresponsible attitude" by the Israeli warship in opening fire on the Turkish boat, *Laros 1*.

Israeli Charge d'Affaires Yehuda Millo was called to the ministry and asked to pass on the request that the remaining Turkish crew members be allowed to return home, the statement said. Millo was also told that Ankara retained the right to seek compensation.

The Israeli boat fired shots in front of the *Laros 1* after crewmen were seen dumping bags overboard, an Israeli military statement said. The

Turkish skipper's body was found after the ship was seized.

The Foreign Ministry statement here said the Turkish boat had been small, civilian and unarmed, and had been understood to be outside Israeli territory in open sea when attacked.

Joshua Brilliant writes:
In Tel Aviv senior military and police sources said last night that as far as they were concerned the crew of the vessel were free to leave the country. However, they are still being held at the police station in Ashkelon. The explanation was that their ship could not sail because it had no captain and its engine needed repairs.

The crew of seven Turks and one Palestinian were free to go because it had been established they had not been engaged in terror activities.

5 terror gangs caught in North in last 4 months

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Five terror gangs were caught trying to infiltrate via the northern border in the past four months, an IDF officer in charge of security along the border, told the United Kibbutz Movement secretariat meeting at Kibbutz Yiftah on Saturday.

Open University may operate in the Triangle

The Open University is considering establishing a centre in the Triangle village of Taibe, according to Mahmoud Idris, cultural coordinator for the Taibe local council.

The projected centre would serve all the villages in the Triangle, comprising about 60,000 Arab inhabitants, he said. Two such centres already exist in Shfaram and Rama in Lower Galilee.

Gaza man killed fleeing ID check

Jerusalem Post Reporter
GAZA. — A 30-year old Gaza resident was killed yesterday when he fled from an IDF patrol that had asked for his identity papers.

The patrol stopped Sha'aban Saleh Atluq and an unidentified friend yesterday morning in the town's Falastin Square. According to military sources, the two resisted, cursed the soldiers and then fled. The sources said the soldiers, had first fired in the air and, when the two continued running, shot at them, fatally wounding Atluq in the head. The second man got away.

The military sources said they did not know whether Atluq had an anti-terrorist or criminal record.

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved

EVA KRIKLER


The funeral will take place today, Sunday, February 16, 1986, at 2 p.m. at the Ramat Hasharon cemetery. We shall meet at the cemetery.

Barney Dornis, Ann, Shirley and Paul Rochelle, Len, Brenda and Michael

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing away of our beloved

HERBERT EPHRAIM

Melita Ephraim
Ilana and David Katz
Elad, Einat, Neta
Katz, Littman, Meron, Flachs



MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

Sale of Stamps by Authorized Agents

It has recently been decided to

increase to 7% the commission

paid to those authorized to sell stamps, post cards and aerogrammes (from the previous level of 3%).

(The commission paid for the sale of revenue stamps and stamped bonds remains 3%). This change is intended to encourage the sale of these items by traders operating independently of the Ministry of Communications.

In addition to the sale of stamps, post cards and aerogrammes through post offices and post office agencies, it is the Ministry's practice to sell these materials to the public through suitable shops and kiosks that request a permit for this purpose.

The Ministry of Communications invites applications for permits for the sale of stamps, from traders and the owners of suitable shops and businesses. Such applications should be made in writing to the manager of the area in which the business concerned is situated:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| JERUSALEM | Jerusalem Area Manager 91 999 |
| TEL AVIV | Tel Aviv-Jaffa Area Manager 61 999 |
| HAIFA | Haifa Area Manager 31 999 |
| THE SOUTH | Southern Area Manager, Beersheba 84 100 |
| CENTRAL AREA | Central Area Manager, Tel Aviv 61 999 |
| THE NORTH | Northern Area Manager, Haifa 31 999 |

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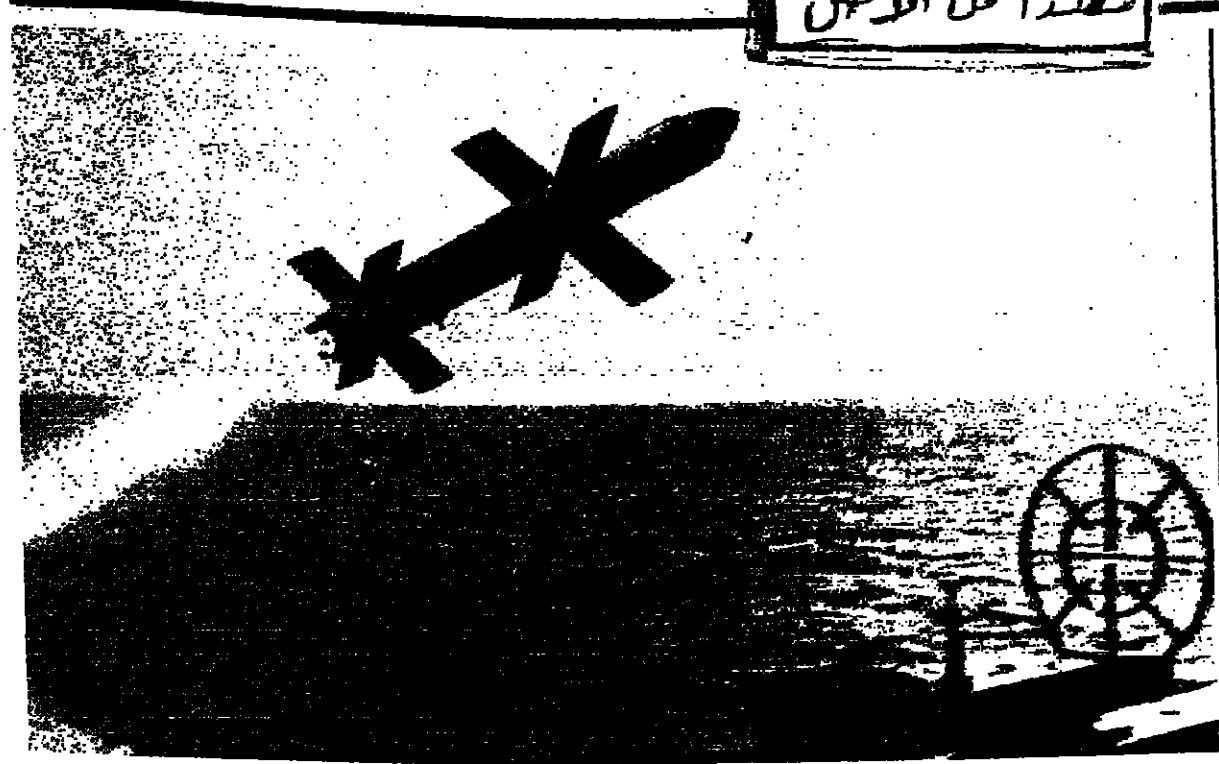
Tel Aviv, February 14, 1986

School sanctions today

Classes are to begin at 10:30 this morning in 40 junior high and high schools in Kiryat Gat, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Kiryat Malachi, Ramat Gan, Givatayim, Yehud, Or Yehuda and Kiryat Ono.

The Secondary School Teachers Association also threatens to stop teaching in 12th grades as of next Sunday unless the Treasury negotiates with the teachers on their wage claims.

Today's strike and the threatened shut-down of 12th grades around the country do not affect classes whose teachers belong to the rival Histadrut Teachers Union.



The Gabriel sea-to-sea missile, one of Israel's most successful weapons exports in recent years. (IDF photo)

Stockholm Peace Institute reports: Israel is top 3rd World arms maker

STOCKHOLM (AP). — Israel was the Third World's largest arms producer between 1980 and 1984, according to a publication of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sipri).

Arms Production in the Third World, says that Israel's arms production for that period was worth \$1.342 billion at constant 1975 prices.

The Third World has boosted production and export of major weapons enormously in the past decades, but self-sufficiency remains remote for all but a few nations, the institute believes. In 1980, the total value of Third World major arms production equaled the price today of a single tank. In 1984, the Third World produced major weapons worth \$1.47 billion at 1975 prices.

Sipri said that Israel and Brazil, with India and Taiwan, currently the biggest weapons producers, are now competing with superpowers in the arms market.

Sipri is an organization for war and peace research financed by Sweden's parliament. The 390-page book is by Sipri researchers Michael Brzoska, a West German, and Thomas Ohlson, a Swede. For them, Third World means countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia (except China and Japan). The book deals only with aircraft, armoured vehicles, missiles and ships.

Sipri said that eight countries accounted for more than 90 per cent of Third World major weaponry production, out of a total of 26 such Third World manufacturing countries.

Next after Israel are India (\$1.265b.), Brazil (\$566m.), Taiwan (\$562m.), Argentina (\$391m.), South Africa (\$380m.), South Korea (\$346m.) and North Korea (\$265m.).

Although Third World arms exports increased tenfold from 1974 to 1984, its share of the global arms market was only about 1.5 per cent.

Brzoska and Ohlson said the prime force behind the Third World arms industry was a quest for political and military self-sufficiency. They also noted that India, Israel and

Telem aliya activists told by Knesset committee members: 'Don't despair of our bureaucracy'

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

Listening to the 10 Telem activists at last week's meeting of the Knesset Aliya and Absorption Committee meeting was a refreshing experience.

Telem is the Hebrew acronym for the Movement of Zionist Fulfillment (*Hatnuva LeZionism Magshimim*), and the young immigrants and potential immigrants had a real, if brief, dialogue with the five of the committee's 12 members who were present — at least for part of the two-hour meeting.

It was one of those rare occasions in the Knesset when people spoke not at but to each other. Some of the participants spoke of absorption problems they themselves had encountered, while others discussed the encouragement of aliya.

Suraya Botecson, who came from Iran nine years ago, stressed the critical importance of housing for singles. She hoped that the report in that morning's *Jerusalem Post* of an impending 30 per cent increase in mortgage loans would soon become a fact.

Ezra Korman, of Ithaca, N.Y., said that neither Kupat Holim nor the Army appreciated the problem of those who "make aliya in stages" — who study here for a year, say, then return home, and make the final decision on aliya later on. Someone who makes aliya at the age of 24 can be drafted for three years simply because he spent 10 months in Israel when he was younger, he said.

And Steve Gardner, of South Bend, Indiana, said the army refused even to give him information about the academic reserve until he could produce an oleh's certificate. But the whole point was that he wanted the information before he became an oleh.

Particularly depressing was the statement by Debby Rothfield that, if she didn't find a job by the summer, she would have to return to Canada. Debby has a degree in international relations from the University of Toronto and has done research for Aipac, the pro-Israel lobby in Washington.

Josh Teitelbaum of San Francisco complained about MKs who visit the U.S. They meet the big shots of the Jewish community in the Waldorf Astoria, but not the *magshimim*, the members of the Zionist youth organizations — Betar, Hashomer Hatzair, Bnei Akiva — who are planning to make aliya. Telem would be glad to organize such meetings.

A novel suggestion came from Debby Salen, a social worker from San Francisco. To keep aliya in the public eye, she said, Israel Television should report once a week on the number of olim who have arrived, just as *l'havdil*, it gives the weekly death toll from road accidents.

When the MKs got their turn to comment, Yitzhak Artzi (Alignment) said that one problem he hoped the committee could solve was to arrange for a single "address" in

מגילת אסתר

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Peres's devolution proposal 'is only chance to brake annexation process'

Emmanuel Sivan, one of the country's leading Arabists and a consultant to the Prime Minister's Office on Arab Affairs, is uncertain whether the prime minister's "devolution" proposal for the Arabs of the West Bank and Gaza is a tactic or a strategy.

"If it's a tactic, designed to create a sense of movement in the stalled peace process, it will have a very short shelf-life, and will pass quickly from the scene," says the professor of history.

But as a strategy, Sivan believes it presents, in the short and medium terms, the only realistic potential brake on the on-going process of annexation. "There is an illusion that under the Labour-led government, during the past 17 months, the annexation process has been halted. But this is a grave mistake. If annexation galloped under the Likud, it walks or marches under [the current] Labour [government]," Sivan feels that "creeping annexation" is far from being an adequate or accurate definition.

Sivan perceives four levels to the on-going process. "The Israeli administration in the West Bank has grown and is just as meddlesome as before in the lives of the inhabitants," he says. The proportion of Jews to Arabs in the civil administration has not increased in favour of the Arabs. He points out that in the late 1970s, the military O/C of the Gaza Strip, Yitzhak Segev, quietly, without fanfare, and without government authorization, cut by half the number of Israelis in the Military Government in the territory. Nothing like this has happened during the Peres administration.

No new Jewish settlements have been established in the territories under Peres. "But the Jewish presence has substantially grown. The numbers have remained stable in the small, remote settlements. But the urban satellite suburbs of Jerusalem (Ma'ale Adumim) and Kfar Sava (Ariel, Karnel Shomron) have burgeoned. The Likud, brilliantly, understood that the reservoir of ideologically motivated settlers had dried up. So they banked on the Israeli cottage dream.

"If 'cottage dream' settlement has slowed down this past year, it is only because of, and in proportion to, the general economic slowdown."

But some 9,000 were added to the Jewish population of the West Bank this past year, says Sivan, and 4,600 housing units are currently at various stages of construction in these urban satellite communities. At this pace, the West Bank will have 100,000 Jews, as the Likud predicted, by the end of the decade.

Thirdly, the infrastructure integration of the territories into Israel is proceeding apace. Sivan points to the continued, massive road-building, not for security reasons, such as the trans-Samaria highway, and to the linking of new areas to the Israeli electricity grid (parts of Nabulus were joined up last year).

Lastly, "and this is the greatest challenge and problem for anti-annexationists," says Sivan, is the continuing integration of the territories into the Israeli economy and the increased dependence of the territories on it. He points out that 100,000 Arabs from the areas — 40 per cent of the West Bank labour force — pays income tax to Israel. In general, taxes go to Israel but very little money is ploughed back into the territories' economy.

The territories have become one vast market for Israeli produce. Israeli exports to the territories have reached \$700 million worth of goods — per year, and imports from them — fruit, vegetables and quarry products — amount to only \$200m.

Israel has continued the Jordanian policy of keeping the West Bank underdeveloped. Some 24 per cent of Egypt's labour force is in industry; in the West Bank, the figure is 6 per cent.

"In short, everybody who is for annexation should be happy with what this government has been doing," says Sivan. Those opposed to annexation must try to "turn the clock back" or at least block the

IN PERSON

By BENNY MORRIS
Post Diplomatic Correspondent



Emmanuel Sivan (Benzian)

process. Sivan believes that "devolution," or giving the inhabitants some measure of real self-government, is the only way at present to do this. At the same time, it should signal to moderates inside and outside the territories that Israel is serious about the peace process.

But it must be a real, palpable measure of self-government. "Merely appointing some new mayors or changing staff officers won't achieve anything," he says. The Arabs will regard such steps with suspicion. Sivan says that an immediate halt must be put to construction in the settlements ("don't issue licences") and to road-building: (the Civil Administration must be "Palestinized," possibly with Arab regional governors (*muhaffizim*), and regional organizations ("such as an industrialists association"), as well as mayors; and an Arab industrial infrastructure must be developed.

'The Post' interviews two delegates to the World Conference of Friendship Leagues with Israel 'Palestinians beat us to the unions, campuses' Thatcher more pro-Israel than her Foreign Office'

By PHILIP GILLON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

When I tell Ian Mikardo MP, generally called "Mic", that he's widely regarded as the last angry young Socialist, he says that he has to move an amendment. "I'm the last angry young Socialist," he insists. Then he adds reflectively, "Mind you, there are some new young people now whom you can call angry because of Thatcher's policies."

Mikardo, who has been a Labour MP for over 40 years, apart from four years in the 'Fifties when he lost his seat, is here as vice-chairman of the Trade Union Friends of Israel which he represents at the fourth World Conference of Friendship Leagues with Israel taking place in Jerusalem.

"Frankly, we were slow to get to work among the trade union," says Mikardo. "For years we had the Labour Friends of Israel, represented here by Maurice Miller MP and the All-Party British-Israel Group, represented by Michael Latham MP. But the trade unions are special. The Palestinians realized this and got to work among them."

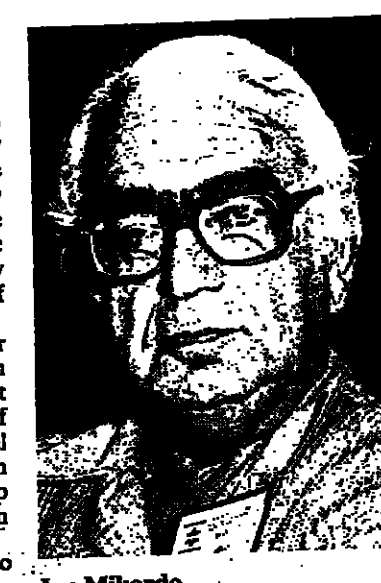
"They talk to the unions about Begin's right-wing record, and about settlements on the West Bank, and the adoption of Thatcher economic policies, with cuts in real wages, education, health, and so on. You must also bear in mind that the British always support an underdog — the Israelis used to be the underdogs until June, 1967, but since then, they've become Goliath rather than David. Still, we have managed to fight back and recover the lost ground. The trade unions were always very pro-Israel because of the kibbutzim; they regard Israel as a basically Socialist country."

The Palestinians also got in on the university campuses well ahead of Israel's friends. There, Mikardo says, it was left to the Jewish and Zionist student associations, to put Israel's case, and he believes they're doing a great job. But, he thinks, they should get more support from the various friends of Israel associations.

"I must tell you how impressed we were by Shimon Peres," Mikardo says. He spoke to an all-party group, and was superb. He was late, because he had been sitting in the House and was so fascinated by the debate that he stayed on and on listening to it.

"After apologizing for being late, he just threw away his prepared speech and answered questions. He didn't dodge a single question, and many went very close to the bone. But he didn't waste our time with clichés and stock answers, like some other Israeli prime ministers have done."

Mikardo joined the Labour Party in 1930, but only became really active in 1940. Despite a party truce during the war, Labour did a great educational job that resulted in its 1945 landslide victory, he says. It was then that Mikardo won the supposedly safe Conservative seat at Reading. He now represents Bow and Poplar.



Ian Mikardo

Apart from his angry socialism, Mic is also famous among Westminster insiders as the House bookmaker. He runs a book on every election — not only on who will win, but on the spread of votes. "But like all good bookies, I never bet myself. I make sure of getting my seven per cent."

He became chairman of the Labour Party so long ago that, he says, "I'm blotted if I remember when it was." But he never got into the cabinet. Why not?

"With Attlee, the explanation was simple: he was a rabid anti-Semite who didn't like Jews. I think Harold Wilson didn't take me in because he thought I'd break out if they did anything I didn't like."

Harold was basically a fixer, very clever, hugely clever, totally pragmatic, with only two genuine beliefs. One was that he had to stay in power and must consider everything from the electoral aspect — he would have done anything for votes, provided it wasn't anti-Israel.

"That brings me to his second conviction. He was very pro-Jewish and 110 per cent committed to Israel. He would support Israel even if it involved risking an election. Greater love hath no man. He is still president of the Labour Friends of Israel."

Mikardo doesn't intend to stand again for election — "I'll be nearly 80 then, and I think that it's time to make way for younger people. My successor has already been chosen."

Would he agree to go into the Lords?

"I'll only go to the Lords if I get a firm commitment from Labour that they'll abolish the House of Lords immediately. I wouldn't mind being abolished. I am trying to get some sort of advisory job that will entitle me to get into the building: I'm in love with the Palace of Westminster. I'm hoping that some young cabinet minister will give me an unpaid post, so that I can get inside to drink with my pals."

Mikardo's brother-in-law, Moshe Rosetti, came here in 1948 to serve as Clerk of the Knesset, "and he really drew up the parliamentary procedures. I think he did a great job. In some ways, the Knesset committees work better than ours."

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Michael Latham is one of Israel's best friends in the House of Commons, chairman of the All-party British-Israel Parliamentary Group and vice president (former chairman) of the Conservative Friends of Israel — and no one can believe that he isn't Jewish.

"It is always assumed," he says, "that either I am Jewish, or have Jewish constituents, or have business interests motivating my work for Israel. Well, I am a practising Anglican, represent the rural constituency of Rutland and Melton in Leicestershire with few if any Jews and certainly no synagogue, and I have no business interests whatsoever."

Latham's support for Israel, he says, evolved out of a sense of shame over both the Holocaust and Christian massacres of Jews over the centuries. "If there's a chance of avoiding these sorts of things through Israel, then the country deserves every bit of support."

"I did nothing for Israel until I became an MP 12 years ago. Then I joined the Conservative Friends, visited Israel as a guest of [then] premier Yitzhak Rabin in 1976, and gradually became more and more involved," he says.

Only two things would put him off supporting Israel: "If it became non-democratic, or anti-Christian, and I don't think either is remotely likely."

Latham feels that Anglo-Israeli ties are becoming closer, and that Premier Peres's recent visit to Britain is a factor in this improvement. "In concrete terms, Peres's trip brought a change in Foreign Office policy, in that they no longer authenticate documents guaranteeing a company's compliance with the Arab trade boycott."

Latham is pressing for the removal of the two other "tritants" in relations: the oil and arms embargoes. "Britain doesn't actually admit to an oil embargo. It merely says that it continues to sell to countries to which it has sold in the past. But that's not strictly true. It now sells to Cyprus and Lichtenstein, for example, countries to which it never sold oil in the past. In any case," Latham says, "the embargo is of little concern to Israel, since, as Peres joked during his visit, 'oil is a buyer's market at the moment.'"

The arms embargo is more serious, he continues. "Since the Lebanon War, Britain has stood by the EEC decision not to sell arms to Israel. However, we had hoped that with most of the IDF now out, this would be reconsidered. I doubt if Israel would buy much from Britain, but it's a question of principle."

"We did not support Israel when it tried to press Britain not to sell arms to Saudi Arabia and Jordan, but we do oppose the double standard. Britain falls over itself to sell arms to the Arabs."

Latham feels that Margaret Thatcher is more pro-Israeli than her Foreign Office, and that recent British foreign secretaries have been



Michael Latham (Scoop 80).

significantly warmer to the PLO than has the prime minister.

"Between 1979 and 1983, when Lord Carrington, and then Francis Pym were at the Foreign Office, both of them would have liked to have met with Yasser Arafat officially. Only pressure from pro-Israeli MPs, and Margaret Thatcher's personal distaste for the PLO, prevented it."

Embarrassment over the recent Milhem-Khoury affair when the PLO backtracked from the possibility of a consensus statement, Latham believes, caused a shift in Foreign Office thinking. The Achille Lauro and Laraca killings strengthened the feeling that the PLO couldn't deliver on peace and wouldn't renounce terror. "It was no longer possible for the Foreign Office to blame 'dissident' PLO factions for the terror actions. It was clear that the mainstream PLO, including Arafat, were up to their necks in all of it."

The pro-Arab slant in British foreign policy is deeply ingrained, Latham says, pointing to the large number of senior British diplomats who took courses at the former Middle Eastern Centre for Arabic Studies in Shemlan, Lebanon, which closed in 1977.

According to July 1984 figures, he says, "42 diplomats with the rank of first secretary or higher serving in British embassies in the Middle East had attended Shemlan. Another 48 Shemlan graduates were in non-Middle East embassies, 48 were working at the Foreign Office, and another 12 were on leave."

"That's 150 of the 1,000 or so senior diplomats who've taken courses in Arabic culture, history, and language. And much as they may claim, and even try, to be even-handed, they must obviously have been significantly influenced by Arab attitudes instilled at Shemlan."

CORRECTION

In the HOUSE OF DREAMS advertisement of Feb. 14, the 4th starred paragraph should have read:

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Iraq claims it sank 19 Iranian vessels

Air war heats up over Persian Gulf

NICOSIA (AP). — Iraq claimed its air force sank 19 Iranian naval vessels and shot down two jet fighters yesterday in stepped-up air activity, while Iran said its forces were consolidating their positions on the Iraqi side of the Shatt al-Arab waterway.

Baghdad Radio, monitored here, said 11 Iranian "naval targets" were destroyed by rockets fired from Iraqi jets in the morning and eight in the afternoon.

"And thus, our eagles imposed their complete domination of the gulf skies. From now on, no aggressor will be allowed to appear in the gulf waters," the radio said.

The types of the vessels were not mentioned. Shipping sources in Bahrain said that some of the Iranian vessels had been ferrying supplies and reinforcements to the Iraqi port of Fau, which the Iraqis captured earlier in the week.

The increased Iraqi air activity near the northern tip of the Persian Gulf came amid announcements that the Iranian advance in the area had been checked. The state-run

radio quoted Gen. Rashash Al-mara as saying the Iraqi forces have stopped the Iranian attack and were encircling the Iranian positions. The Iraqis said they were "consolidating" their positions.

Baghdad Radio reported the attacking Iraqi jets also shot down two Iranian jet fighters. This raised to four jets and three helicopter gunships the total number of Iranian aircraft claimed shot down by Iraq since the Iranian offensive across the Shatt al-Arab was launched last Sunday.

Meanwhile, Iran's Irna news agency reported that an Iranian helicopter had accomplished an unusual feat of shooting down an Iraqi jet fighter. "This impossible task was the first of its kind in the world and was the result of the expertise and timely action of the helicopter pilot," Irna said.

This raised to 22 the number of Iraqi air craft which Iran claims to have shot down in the offensive. Although Iraqi jets attacked Iranian vessels and oil facilities on

Kharz Island and Ganaveh earlier last week, this was the first time since the Iranian offensive that Iraq reported large-scale air activity over the battlefield. This was seen as an indication weather conditions that had prevented such operations earlier apparently were clearing up.

Iraq has a marked aerial superiority over Iran, which enabled it to blunt previous Iranian offensives. According to the London-based International Institute of Strategic Studies, Iraq has 480 warplanes, compared to an estimated 120 jet fighters of the Iranian Air Force.

Iran's only reference to ground fighting on the sixth day of its major push into Iraq across the waterway was that its forces were consolidating their positions that have closed Iraq's sea access to the Persian Gulf.

According to Irna, Islamic Revolutionary Guard volunteers were clearing 4,000 hectares of "liberated" palm groves, "collecting weapons and ammunition abandoned by the retreating Iraqi forces."



Bodies of Iraqi troops lie outside a command post stormed by Iranian forces at the end of last week at Iraq's port of Fau. The Iraqis claim to have captured the strategic port in their current offensive. (Reuters telephoto)

Progress seen in 'dialogue of the deaf'

VIENNA (AP). — There are whispers of progress in the central European troop reduction talks, the longest-running East-West disarmament forum, which an ambassador once called "a dialogue of the deaf."

Both sides claim credit for the slight improvement in the tone of the talks. It's not surprising. Each side has been accusing the other of stalling since negotiations began October 30, 1975.

Despite the tough issues remaining, the talks are beginning to focus on substance rather than form. Negotiators have started to bargain with numbers rather than with concepts and mutual accusations.

Delegates on both sides credit the November summit meeting of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for giving momentum to the talks.

Their aim is to lower the number of troops — about 2 million of them — stationed in NATO countries Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and West Germany, and in Warsaw Pact members Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

During the two annual rounds, delegates from NATO and the Warsaw Pact meet weekly in closed session in the ornate Hofburg palace, the home of Vienna's Spanish Riding School and once a seat of power of the Austrian emperors.

Countries with troops stationed in the region are involved as "direct participants," meaning the U.S., the Soviet Union, Britain and Canada in addition to the host countries.

Other alliance members, who have mostly observer roles, bring the total number of countries involved to 19.

A year ago, the Soviet bloc proposed initial reductions of 20,000 Soviet troops and 13,000 U.S. soldiers and urged the West to set aside a question that had stalled the talks for years: How many troops are in the area to begin with?

There is still no agreement on the "data issue." The West, without being more specific, says its forces are outnumbered by about 200,000 Eastern troops. The Warsaw Pact claims troop levels are about even at

990,000.

But the issue has now been laid aside.

In a proposal December 5, NATO dropped its insistence on solving the numbers question and called for initial reductions of 11,500 Soviet troops and 5,000 Americans. The Soviet bloc said it would go along with the idea if the West would raise the U.S. withdrawal to 6,500 troops.

Both proposals see "no-increase" commitments for at least three years, and it appears that real bargaining on that question has begun.

Other major problems are how to police an agreement, how to deal with arms and how to count reductions.

"For the first time in many years there appears a common framework for further talks and the general outline of a possible agreement," said a spokesman for the Soviet bloc after the second session of the latest round early this month.

"We've seen a little movement, and possible signals are in the air," said a NATO spokesman.

Annual U.S. survey of human rights

Soviets get 'near-zero' rating

WASHINGTON (AP). — In its annual report on human rights around the world, the Reagan administration on Thursday gave the Soviet Union a near-zero rating.

The report also criticized, to varying degrees, the 1985 human rights performance in more than a dozen countries, including the Philippines, Iran, Chile, South Africa, Nicaragua, Kampuchea, Afghanistan and, as reported in Friday's *Jerusalem Post*, the territories administered by Israel.

The report compiled by the State Department was sent to Congress in compliance with a law designed to help Congress decide on aid levels and foreign policies toward countries with poor human-rights performance.

Despite major efforts by the U.S. to get new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to loosen restrictions on emigration and religious practice, the Soviet Union got a near-zero grade for 1985. The report said, "Soviet performance in the realm of human-rights fails to meet even the most elementary of accepted international standards."

The report called the Soviet Union a one-party centralized state, backed by a secret police force that interferes with every aspect of private life.

"There is no evidence of change in this pattern of repression in 1985," the report said, citing longstanding U.S. complaints of harsh treatment of dissidents and religious and ethnic minorities and a freeze on travel, speech, assembly and privacy rights.

The only broad regional trend cited was what a spokesman called an "encouraging" move towards democracy in Latin America, namely in Uruguay and Guatemala, where democratically elected governments have taken office, and in Peru, Honduras and Costa Rica, where elections have been held.

"Finally we have the very recent end of a dictatorship in Haiti," he added, referring to the end of the Duvalier family dictatorship in that country.

The State Department has been working on the study for months, so there were no references to the Philippine elections in which independent U.S. observers have accused supporters of President Ferdinand Marcos of massive fraud and violence.

The report said that five years after Marcos ended martial law he continues to exercise broad powers to "limit criticism of the regime and opposition activities."

Of other countries, the report said:

• South Africa continued an "incremental reform process," but the black majority continues to suffer pervasive, legally sanctioned discrimination.

• The guerrilla-fighting government forces of El Salvador, denounced in previous reports, "endeavored to conduct their operations in a more humane manner. However, loss of civilian life as a result of military action by government forces continues and there are still credible reports of prisoners being subjected to abuse by government officials."

• The Iranian government's hold on power is "reinforced through arrests, executions, and other forms of intimidation."

• In Chile, torture and police brutality continue to be serious problems. Use of arbitrary arrests, detentions and internal exile by the military government are "among the more serious areas of human-rights violations."

• China has increased the openness of its society, but its total human-rights performance improved only "marginally."

• In Afghanistan, where rebels are fighting Soviet forces, an already dismal situation deteriorated even more in 1985.

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

2 weeks' work on land for Liberia's cabinet

ABIDJAN (Reuters). — President Samuel Doe has ordered all cabinet ministers to spend two weeks farming as part of Liberia's "Green Revolution," Monrovia radio said yesterday.

The radio, monitored here, quoted a presidential statement saying that "any minister who fails to make a farm in the next six months will be dropped from the cabinet."

Authorities ban all dogs from Canton

PEKING (AP). — Dog ownership has been banned in the southern city of Canton and its outskirts, and those violating the law will be fined, a newspaper reported.

The *Yangcheng Evening News* on Friday gave no reason for the new regulations, but the danger of rabies was the reason given for a ban on dog ownership in Peking in 1983. Officials said special extermination squads killed 200,000 dogs there.

The state-run newspaper *Peasant Daily* reported Thursday that as many as a quarter of China's dogs may be infected with rabies.

Conviction in plot to take over Honduras

MIAMI (AP). — An arms dealer was convicted Thursday of participating in an unsuccessful plot to assassinate the president of Honduras in 1984 and take over the Central American nation's government in a coup financed by cocaine profits.

Gerard Latchinian, 48, was convicted on 19 other counts, including racketeering, cocaine trafficking and conspiracy to murder for hire. He faces possible penalties of up to 179 years in prison.

Soviet workers give party free Sabbath

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Millions of Soviet workers did an extra day's unpaid work yesterday in their factories or on the streets, in honour of this month's Communist Party Congress.

People of all ages, office workers, students and even some pensioners, could be seen hacking away at iced-up pavements or cleaning road signs in Moscow's morning sunshine.

The extra day's work has been given a big build-up in the state media, with rousing slogans exhorting workers to join in. Theoretically the *subbotnik* (free Saturday) is purely voluntary, but few people resist the strong official pressure to take part. One newspaper quoted a worker as saying: "It is our way of showing our devotion to the party cause through labour."

U.S. and Soviets to resume air traffic in April

WASHINGTON (AP). — The U.S. and the Soviet Union formally agreed Thursday to resume direct commercial airline flights between the two countries on April 27 after a four-year lapse.

President Reagan ordered all Aeroflot flights suspended in January 1982 in retaliation for Soviet "repression" in Poland.

The new agreement was spurred by Reagan's summit meeting last November in Geneva with Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader.

Man sets himself alight in front of White House

WASHINGTON (AP). — A man set himself on fire on a snowy sidewalk in front of the White House and was later hospitalized with critical burns.

"About two minutes after 10, the gentleman walked up to just outside the gate by the White House... and struck a match," a White House spokesman said after Friday night's incident. "Apparently he was already doused with gasoline."

President Reagan and his wife were vacationing at their ranch in Southern California at the time.

"He was not protesting anything as far as we could see," the spokesman said.

37 Swapo rebels slain in Namibia border clash

WINDHOEK, South West Africa. — South African-led soldiers shot dead 37 black nationalist guerrillas in a battle near South West Africa's border with Angola, the military said yesterday.

The South West Africa (Namibia) territory force said here that the fighting on Friday brought to 85 the number of guerrillas killed in skirmishes this year. A total of 599 insurgents were slain last year, the force said.

The guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) have fought since 1966 to end South African rule over the territory.

The statement did not specify where the fighting occurred. It said there were no South African casualties.

In Johannesburg, South African riot police clashed with blacks in a township near Johannesburg yesterday and staff at a local clinic said at least three blacks were killed.

A Reuters correspondent in Alexandra township watched doctors stem a flow of blood from the chest

of one gunshot victim and treat a black burned by a petrol bomb.

A police spokesman said the situation in the black township was under control and that he had no information on casualties.

Police ordered reporters to leave the township under emergency powers imposed last July on riot-torn areas of South Africa.

More than 1,100 people have died in two years of growing violence amid black protests against apartheid race segregation policies.

Meanwhile, South Africa's official parliamentary opposition party, in disarray after the surprise resignation of its leader, Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, yesterday elected a moderate long-time politician as acting leader.

The federal council of the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) named Colin Eglin, 60, as leader until the party's federal congress later this year elects a permanent leader.

Slabbert resigned earlier this month in dismay over the lack of apartheid reform by parliament. (AP, Reuters)

U.S. mum on taking Duvalier as France says he can't stay

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The Reagan Administration yesterday declined comment on a French government statement that ousted Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier may go to the U.S. if no other country is willing to take him.

Several countries have refused to grant permanent asylum to Duvalier and his family, and French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius told French radio yesterday. "It would be normal for him to leave for the U.S."

A State Department spokesman declined comment on Fabius's remarks but said the administration was working with Paris

and "a number of other countries" to find a home for Haiti's former "president for life."

She said she did not know if France would grant Duvalier an extension of his temporary asylum there, which was to expire last night.

France granted him temporary asylum but is reluctant to approve his request to remain in France. However, Fabius yesterday ruled out returning Duvalier to Haiti, which he fled with his wife and family nine days ago.



An overly excited supporter throws an armlock around the neck of Portuguese presidential candidate Mario Soares on Friday during his campaign visit to a market in Lisbon. Voting takes place today, in the election, a run-off between the veteran socialist and right-winger Diogo Freitas do Amaral. (Reuters telephoto)

UK may receive £4b. in oil from Saudi Arabia arms deal

LONDON (Reuters). — Britain is completing the terms of its biggest export deal — to sell 132 advanced military aircraft to Saudi Arabia under an arrangement including an oil-barter agreement, the Defence Ministry said Friday.

The Ministry declined to confirm or deny a report in Friday's *Financial Times* that the sale, valued at up to £4 billion when initially agreed last autumn, would be paid for almost entirely in oil.

The two countries said upon announcing the deal for 72 Tornado fighters, 30 Hawk trainers and 30 PC-9 aircraft that it would be financed partly through an oil-barter arrangement.

The newspaper said that Shell, BP and the Aramco oil consortium had arranged for oil to be delivered over three years at a rate expected to cover the cost of the aircraft in the first and most substantial phase of the project.

TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

TELEVISION

ON THE AIR

EDUCATIONAL:

8.15 School Broadcasts 14.00 Current Problems 14.15 Spoken Arabic 14.40 The 5 Basic Shapes 15.00 Everyman's University: Introduction to Life Sciences: Classical Greece; Art in the Age of Technology 16.00 Revue Sumsum 16.30 Ark II (part 7) 17.00 A New Evening — live magazine

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES: 17.30 The Living Planet. Part 3 of a 12-part British nature film: The Northern Forests

ARABIC LANGUAGE programmes: 18.30 News roundup 18.32 Black Star 19.00 Weekly News Magazine

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at 20.00 with a news roundup 20.02 Tel Pop — pop and entertainment magazine 21.00 Mabot Newsreel and Overseas Sports Review

21.45 Wanted — employment programme. Opportunities for those who change jobs either by choice or by redundancy. 22.00 Cannon: The Exchange 22.50 News

JORDAN TV (unofficial): 17.30 Cartoons 18.00 French Hour 19.30 News in Hebrew 20.00 News in Arabic 20.30 Good News 21.00 Afternoon Movie 16.30 Children's Programmes 17.00 Flying Horse 17.30 Muppets 18.00 Voyagers 19.00 Nova 20.00 Special 21.00 Family Ties 21.30 Movie 22.00 Good News

MIDDLE EAST TV (from T.A. north): 13.00 Animals, Animals, Animals 13.30 Westbrook Hospital 14.00 700 Club 14.30 Good News 15.00 Afternoon Movie 16.30 Children's Programmes 17.00 Flying Horse 17.30 Muppets 18.00 Voyagers 19.00 Nova 20.00 Special 21.00 Family Ties 21.30 Movie 22.00 Good News

ON THE AIR

Voice of Music

6.02 Morning Melodies

7.07 C.P.E. Bach: Trio Sonata (Beale)

8.05 Hebrew songs

9.30 Encounter — live family magazine

10.30 Programme in Easy Hebrew

11.10 School Broadcasts

11.30 Education for all

12.05 Oriental songs

13.00 News in English

13.30 News in French

14.06 Children's programmes

15.30 World of Science (repeated)

16.05 Notes on a New Book

16.30 Books are Friends

17.20 Everyman's University

18.06 Jewish Traditions

18.47 Bible Reading

19.08 Jewish Thoughts

19.30 Programme for Olim

22.05 Child and Family Magazine

First Programme

6.03 Programmes for Olim

7.30 Favourite Old Songs

8.05 Compas — with Benny Hendel

9.05 Hebrew songs

9.30 Encounter — live family magazine

10.30 Programme in Easy Hebrew

11.10 School Broadcasts

11.30 Education for all

12.05 Oriental songs

13.00 News in English

13.30 News in French

14.06 Children's programmes

15.30 World of Science (repeated)

16.05 Notes on a New Book

16.30 Books are Friends

17.20 Everyman's University

18.06 Jewish Traditions

18.47 Bible Reading

19.08 Jewish Thoughts

19.30 Programme for Olim

22.05 Child and Family Magazine

Second Programme

7.00 This Morning — news magazine

8.05 Safe Journey

9.05 House Call — with Rivka Michaeli

10.10 All Shades of the Network

12.10 Open Line — news and music

13.00 Midday

14.06 Matters of Interest

15.10 Magic Moments

16.05 Songs and Homework

17.10 Economics Magazine

18.06 Press Conference

18.46 Tour in Sport

19.05 Today — radio newswatch

19.25 The Jewish People

20.05 Cantorial Requests

22.05 Light Music for Wind Ensembles

22.05 Third Bell — arts magazine

Army

6.30 University on the Air

7.07 "707" — with Michael Dek

8.05 Good Morning Israel

9.05 Right Now — with Ravi Reshev

11.05 The Old Days — with Orly Yaniv

13.05 Israeli Style — with Eli Yisrael

15.05 The Doing — with Erez Tal

16.05 Four in the Afternoon

17.00 Evening Newsreel

18.05 Sports Magazine

19.05 Radio — with Yoav Kutner

20.05 Out of Sight — folk songs

21.00 Mabot — TV Newsreel

22.05 University on the Air (repeated)

22.05 Popular songs

23.05 Zvi Shapira talks to Israeli Arabs

CINEMA

JERUSALEM 4.30, 7.9

Eden: White Nights 4.15, 6.45, 9.15;

Edison: Commando; Nabira: Back to the Future 4.30, 6.45, 9.15;

Edison: Commando; Nabira: Back to the Future 4.30, 6.45, 9.15;

Edison: Commando; Nabira: Back to the Future 4.30, 6.45, 9.15;

Edison: Commando; Nabira: Back to the Future 4.30, 6.45, 9.15;

Edison: Commando; Nabira: Back to the Future 4.30, 6.45, 9.15;

TODAY

WOMEN shouldn't take childbirth lying down - either literally or figuratively.

That's the message of world-renowned childbirth expert and author Sheila Kitzinger, here earlier this month to address the fifth birthday conference of the Israel Childbirth Education Centre (ICEC). Kitzinger is an advisor to the ICEC and a consultant and senior tutor with its big sister organization, the UK's National Childbirth Trust (NCT).

Her warmth and grandmotherly demeanour notwithstanding, Kitzinger is in person, as in her books (*The Experience of Childbirth*, *The Good Birth Guide*, *Woman's Experience of Sex* and a dozen others), a sharp-tongued, persuasive proponent of free choice for women in every aspect of pregnancy and childbirth.

Kitzinger bases her views on the proposition that a woman's body is hers, and hers alone, and argues that women should ignore social pressures that limit choice, deciding for instance if they want to give birth at home; how they want to position themselves during labour; or if they want to refuse the human and technical assistance offered them.

While childbearing once was "women's work," taking place within the comfort of the home, with female friends, relatives and midwife in attendance, today it has become the province of men, according to Kitzinger. Although "there can be positive experiences with technological intervention," she laments what she calls the "era of high-tech childbirth... in which women are covered with tubes, wires and electrodes."

"Childbearing women the world over have increasingly become subject to technological controls and intervention on the part of the medical establishment," Kitzinger told her audience during the conference's keynote speech.

"They have become containers for the fetus... Things done to them are complex and make childbirth a nightmare. Monitoring, rupturing of membranes, induction - these are interventions which turn a woman into a passive body on which professionals act. Why should she accept intravenous drips, routine episiotomies and (umbilical) cord clamping as inevitable?"

A SOCIAL anthropologist who studied at Oxford, and whose philosophy and techniques are based on years of field work in the UK and on several continents, Kitzinger is known for provoking the ire of health care workers and doctors who, she says, "sell hospital birth... without helping women to be able to see the pros and cons of the different alternatives facing them, or to be able to plan ahead, knowing things may not turn out as they hope."

One of her more revolutionary recommendations is called the "birth plan." During pregnancy, Kitzinger suggests, a woman should sit down and compose a statement of

preferences regarding the conduct and care of those who will be helping her in childbirth. Two copies of the plan, one for herself and one for her husband or the friend who will be with her during labour, should be drafted after extensive discussion and negotiations with her doctor and/or midwife.

"A birth plan is not just a description of the ideal birth but a 'blue print'... a statement of 'if this should happen, I should prefer that this be done.' It is important that the plan be discussed with the birth companion as no woman should be isolated in labour. She needs a loving and supportive person with her, and not just a health care worker."

Furthermore, Kitzinger noted in all seriousness, hospital staff should be "guests" in the delivery room, entering only after knocking on the door, and after receiving the consent of the woman in labour. (While midwives in the audience were incensed by many of Kitzinger's comments, they agreed that knocking was not such a bad idea.)

"In general, careful thinking about the choices (in childbirth) builds the foundation for a woman to be an active birth-giver, not a passive patient. Getting the information women need in order to make birth plans entails speaking out and being assertive. In this way they will acquire and contribute to making changes," she said.

KITZINGER, who gave birth to all five of her daughters at home, admitted that in general in the UK, there is a "raised consciousness about the choices involved in childbirth." She attributes this partially to 15 years of pressure and media publicity on the part of the NCT which climaxed in 1982. That year, a demonstration took place at the Royal Free Hospital by medical staff, childbirth counsellors and parents against the declaration by a senior doctor that women should give birth lying down. (The doctor later left, claiming that the demonstration had nothing to do with his resignation.)

Today in Great Britain women are allowed to move about more during labour, they are not given drugs without being consulted - this was not the case 10 years ago - and their babies are handed to them directly after birth. There is a lot more "rooming-in" (where newborn infants sleep next to their mothers in the hospital), and, said Kitzinger, about one-third of all maternity units encourage women to make birth plans. These achievements, she stressed, were brought about by pressure from outside the medical profession, by women seeking freedom of choice and refusing to accept intervention in labour as taken for granted.

However, as Kitzinger noted later in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, things are far from rosy in the UK. She was referring to the controversial court case brought against obstetrician Wendy Savage, accused

Body politic

During childbirth, a woman becomes a passive body on which doctors act. Modern medical technology has turned childbearing into a 'nightmare,' British expert SHEILA KITZINGER charges. She spoke to *The Jerusalem Post's* AMY LEVINSON, during the fifth birthday conference of the Childbirth Education Centre.



(André Brummann)



of malpractice in the delivery of seven babies. Four of the babies in question were delivered by breech birth; three by "late" Caesarean sections. Two of the babies died.

The surprising element in the case: Dr. Savage's colleagues ("obstetricians and gynecologists, all friends, belonging to the same lodge of the Freemasons") publicized the seven cases and spearheaded her suspension last summer.

"In one of the cases of death," Kitzinger said, "the couple had had a Caesarean section previously and wanted to have a natural birth. Wendy (who is known for her natural

childbirth orientation) said, 'OK, let's wait and see.' Afterwards, the baby was fine, but nine days later it dies. The parents, who didn't allow a postmortem (they are Moslems), blamed Wendy."

In the other case, the baby died after its mother hemorrhaged and "Wendy was not even in the country. One of her co-workers was taking the case," according to Kitzinger. The other babies' parents are "extremely upset" that the private details of their labour and childbirth process have been made a subject of public scrutiny.

A public inquiry into the case began while Kitzinger was in Israel. She estimates that it will take a few more weeks for a decision to be made. Meanwhile, she says, some members of parliament have taken an interest in the case and want to bring the matter up for discussion.

(Savage, who runs a community health service promoting natural and home births, and who is the only female consultant at the London Hospital, is being supported by hundreds of patients, nurses, midwives and 85 per cent of the general practitioners in her London borough of Tower Hamlets, according to a re-

cent article in *The Guardian*.) Along with a group of distinguished doctors, Kitzinger is helping Savage "coordinate her strategy" in what has become an unprecedentedly "big (pro-choice in childbirth) test case in the UK. Yet Savage is not doing anything so different from doctors in other hospitals - she's not radical."

KITZINGER likens the status of the ICEC to that of the NCT over a decade ago. Today the Israeli organization is trying to convince the medical establishment - particularly the Ministry of Health - that its orientation and its counsellors, which undergo an intensive course taught by health care professionals, deserve legitimization. What can be done to further the ICEC's cause?

"I believe that they (the 600 members of the ICEC, its 25 certified counsellors and other sympathetic parents) should be well-informed about childbirth methods. They should read up on the latest research, keep up with the latest journals, and get in touch to discuss things - even on a social basis - with doctors and midwives," Kitzinger suggested. "After giving birth, they should write to hospitals, making positive and negative criticism of their care." Such careful lobbying, she believes, can be effective in the long run.

Referring to the arguments voiced at the conference by irate Israeli midwives who claimed that infant mortality has been lowered by the use of fetal monitoring, intra-venous drips, enemas and other procedures which she considers not-always-desirable "interventions," Kitzinger added that people should know that "properly-controlled, randomized studies on obstetric intervention in childbirth have not been conducted on the subject has not supported the case for intervention."

She has witnessed progress during her visits here. However, there are still areas that need work. Kitzinger implied that, for instance, the regular meetings of members of the medical establishment and people affiliated with the NCT, held to exchange information in her home town of Oxford, are far from becoming a reality in Israel. Yet she praises the *tipat halav* (mother-infant clinic) system here ("anything that brings the health care worker into the community is good, provided we aren't talking about mammoth regional centres") and says that home births are suitable to both the religious community and kibbutzim.

KITZINGER is continually revising and improving the techniques she has developed for women in pregnancy and labour. She has recently updated the curricula of two courses she teaches at the UK's Open University, which will eventually be taught at the university-affiliated programme in this country.

For her course on preparation for

childbirth, for example, she has added information on relaxation techniques, nutrition, and the effects of drugs. In this and her other course, on pregnancy and childbirth, she stresses the need for a couple to prepare themselves emotionally for parenthood by sharing feelings and through steady mutual support.

"I try to give a lot of straight information in my courses," Kitzinger explained, "and not just reassurances to the parents. It is important to hear the pros and cons of pregnancy and birth."

Meanwhile, the prolific author is preparing material for a new book, which has already been over two years in the making.

"The book focuses on the impact a crying baby has on his or her parents, on the relationship between the couple, the family and the community, and with professional advisors who are called in to advise the parents," she said.

The Crying Baby is to be based on questionnaires, answered by over 1,000 women, and interviews conducted in Australia and the UK. From the research she has done to date, Kitzinger has discovered that there is a strong statistical association between stress in pregnancy and the amount a baby cries.

At the conference in Tel Aviv, Kitzinger held a four-hour workshop on new approaches to relaxation and massage during pregnancy. Before an audience of 100 pregnant women and their husbands, as well as nurses and midwives, she demonstrated how to "get in touch" with the fetus and stimulate its movements by massaging the lower part of the uterus. By constantly touching her belly and monitoring the sleep and alert states of her unborn child, a pregnant woman can learn to relate to him or her "as a real person" even before birth, Kitzinger claimed.

"Giving birth can be a joyous experience, and one that is primarily a psycho-sexual experience as opposed to a medical act," she explained, when asked to sum up her philosophy.

"A woman shouldn't have to hand over the experience to experts. Her concern should be not only with how to cope with pain but with the quality of her relationship with her caregivers, and with the well-being of the baby and her autonomy as a woman."

Doctors, midwives and nurses must learn to provide an environment within which "each woman can work harmoniously with her body and express herself without inhibitions, and within which birth is part of the continuity of life - and not like a road accident."

"The kind of care we want," Kitzinger concluded, "won't come by passivity, but by demanding more information on which to base our choices, and by having the courage to speak out and not be bullied. Power [in this sphere] will come from women who band together, pressing for change."

Childbearing positions

Amy Levinson and Orielle Berry

ACCORDING to Dr. Michele Klein, a psychologist from Rehovot, some Jewish ethnic traditions are paralleled in current attitudes to childbearing. Klein cited biblical precedents for several modern phenomena - associated with pregnancy, miscarriage, giving birth and the post-natal period - subjects on which she interviewed Israeli women.

"There are stories in the Bible about the moral support a husband can give his wife in childbirth," Klein told the audience. "When Eve was giving birth, she prayed to God to help her. Adam saw her in distress and helped by praying too. We know today that it is important to have support - although not necessarily from one's husband - during labour."

Klein noted that the Bible and other literature mention dozens of childbearing positions: Pharaoh in Egypt bade his women to have babies "on two stones" (kneeling), whereas Rachel asked Bilhah to deliver her child by sitting on her thighs. The Talmud, according to Klein, mentions "kneeling on heels" and using a birth "stool."

She stressed that from her experience and research, "it is crucial to take a woman's psychological state into the obstetric picture," and concluded by saying that she believes that if a new mother is depressed after giving birth, singing lullabies or songs which reflect her feelings can have a "cathartic" and uplifting effect.

"EVERYONE regards pain as an indication of something being wrong with the body," Margie Polden, an obstetric physiotherapist at London's Hammersmith Hospital told the audience in her presentation. "Labour is a natural phenomenon and well-prepared women register less pain."

She said that a mother in England, asked what relieved her pain most during her difficult labour, answered - her midwife!

Also on the subject of pain in childbirth, Dr. Kurt Simon from the Department of Anesthesiology, Nahariya Hospital, spoke on the

state of the art in maternal anesthesia and analgesia.

Against a backdrop of anti-analgesic criticism, Simon, who advocated the use of pain-killers during childbirth, said that patients receiving an epidural are far more relaxed and better able to relate to what is happening around them.

Speaking on short- and long-term effects of the use of analgesia on the newborn, Prof. Arthur Eidelman of Sha'are Zedek Hospital, Jerusalem, said that analgesic medication gets through the placenta and of course affects the baby. The baby, depressed from medication, will appear very alert at birth, but within an hour or two, the newborn will visibly enter a depressed state.

Eidelman stressed that it makes no difference how long before a birth the mother receives medication - it will still affect the baby's awareness. "One cannot deny the objective evidence of the potency of drugs given to mothers. Stop subjecting our patients to such loads of doses," he said.

Dr. Patrick Cranshaw, a general practitioner in England, started using hypnosis on his patients purely by chance. Suffering from excruciating labour pains, a patient appealed to Cranshaw for help. The doctor decided to hypnotize her or rather, to use what he terms "relaxation therapy." It worked - the mother "went under" and her pain was greatly alleviated.

During a workshop on the same topic, Cranshaw told participants, "If you took 100 women and asked them whether they wanted a painful birth they were aware of, or transient amnesia" most would opt for the latter."

One woman who had been hypnotized during her labour said she was completely aware of what was happening around her, but suffered no pain. "You are in control of your pain," she said.

IF PROPERLY stimulated, a newborn baby can talk to its parents: a new mother can ward off post-natal depression if she sings to her baby; labour pains can be greatly alleviated through the use of hypnosis.

These are just a few of the research results presented at a recent conference in Tel Aviv entitled "The Childbearing Year."

More than 250 participants attended the three-day event marking the fifth birthday of the Israel Childbirth Education Centre (ICEC).

Like its sister organization, the UK's National Childbirth Trust (NCT), the ICEC offers courses in childbirth preparation, post-natal support groups, breastfeeding counselling and a host of other services. It encourages expecting couples to become well-informed about childbirth and works to increase awareness of natural methods of giving birth.

Childbirth too often is a tense, joyless affair, said author Sheila Kitzinger, the conference's key-note speaker, whose participation was made possible by the British Council. Childbearing has been taken away from women by doctors and technical intervention, said Kitzinger, and much of the experience has been lost in the process. (See story above.)

Another visitor from the UK, Dr. Penny Stanway, author of *Breast is Best*, touched on the hidden reasons that some women do not nurse to breastfeed their babies. One influence at work is the greater expectations and demands many women have - "trying to become super-women," as Stanway put it. In taking on many roles, women make no provision for breastfeeding, she said.

Women are also influenced by the slick advertising put out to sell artificial substitutes for mother's milk, and Stanway put special emphasis on the lack of encouragement and information new mothers find in the British health services. Her theme was echoed by Chloe Fisher, a midwife at Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, who said there is a tremendous lack of counselling and support for women who choose to breastfeed.

COMMUNICATION between parents and their newborns was the

topic of a workshop on the impact of childbirth on the family.

But despite the inroads the ICEC has made into the medical profession in this country - particularly in hospitals where increasing flexibility has been shown in allowing husbands to attend births, etc. - the organization is still striving for official recognition. Attempts to be accepted by midwives and nurses have not been totally successful, as there is sometimes disagreement over the ICEC's natural (e.g. anti-intervention) orientation towards childbirth.

One veteran midwife who attended the conference was incensed by Kitzinger's comments on the "technological take-over" in delivery rooms and a lack of flexibility before being certified.

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among doctors and midwives. The midwife claimed that hospitals cannot allow "someone off the street to start giving advice to pregnant women," and said that health care staff "never force a woman to accept care that she doesn't want."

Most of all, the organization is hoping for legitimization on the part of the Ministry of Health. One representative of the ministry did attend the conference and while voicing disagreement on some of the attitudes and approaches that the organization promotes, he said he would urge the ministry to research the background of the organization and to reconsider the status of the ICEC.

(Today is edited by Joanna Yehiel)

ENTERTAINING IN JERUSALEM

By Jeanne Weisgal

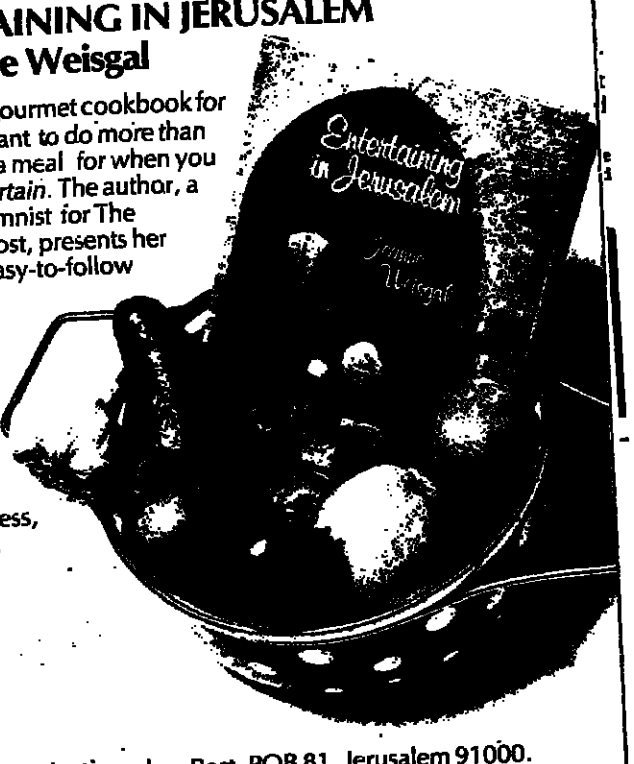
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Mizrahi is most profitable of Israeli banks in New York

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

Israeli overseas banking, though spread all over Europe and the Americas, is centred in New York. And of the various operations Israeli banks have in the American financial capital—at least those that can be assessed from published figures—the most profitable is that of United Mizrahi Bank (UMB) Bank and Trust Company, part of the Mizrahi group.

Formally speaking, UMB is a subsidiary of the United Mizrahi Overseas Holding Company, a specially-established body registered in Holland and set-up in 1985 to take control of the group's overseas operations. The Israeli core of the group, United Mizrahi Bank, holds the majority stake in the holding company and may be said to dominate, but not monopolize, the strategy and direction of the whole group.

Within this framework, Moshe Krausz operates as president of UMB Trust and as manager of all Mizrahi's operations in the western hemisphere, from Canada to Uruguay. In both capacities he reports to Aharon Meir, whose various hats include chairman of UMB Trust, chairman of the holding company, the general manager of Bank Mizrahi in Israel. To complete the picture, it should be added that Krausz is also general manager of the holding company. Not surprisingly, there are many people both inside and outside Mizrahi who see Krausz—Meir's protégé—eventually succeeding him if the top job becomes vacant.

Krausz's credentials as crown prince are based on the performance of UMB Trust in the eight years since it opened, throughout which he has headed it. The recently published results for 1985 provide the hard evidence of the bank's success.

The balance sheet total rose 9% to

stand at \$617 million at the end of 1985. But the main efforts were put into increasing profitability, rather than into swelling the balance sheet for its own sake. In a recent interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Krausz emphasized this point several times, and even the official annual report trumpets it loudly. This explains why, despite the 9% overall growth, deposits rose only 6% last year and net loans outstanding actually fell by 8.5%, with investments in interest-bearing securities and deposits growing sharply to take up the slack.

This conservative policy did not reduce income—quite the opposite. Operating income climbed 10% while operating expenses only grew by 3% so that gross income jumped 74% to \$10.22m. Even after a near-doubling of the loan-loss provision and a more than doubling of the provision for taxes, net income for 1985 was \$5.3m., 56% up on 1984's result of \$3.4m.

All of this makes it apparent that Krausz runs a tight ship. What is even more enlightening is to compare UMB's results with those of other Israeli banks in New York. The key figures to use here are the return on equity and return on assets. The former show UMB having a gross return of 26% and a net return of 14%, which are good figures in any company. The net return on total assets, often employed to measure banks' profitability, soared from 0.68% to 0.92% in 1985.

By comparison, Bank Leumi Trust Company of New York reported \$11.1m. earnings in 1985 on a balance sheet of \$2.82 billion, giving it a return on assets of 0.41%, whilst its net return on equity was 9.6%.

Israel Discount Bank of New York, which is similar to Mizrahi in that they both concentrate on

wholesale banking to large individual and corporate customers, and eschew Leumi's retail strategy, has not yet published 1985 results. Using 1984 as a basis, however, shows Discount making a gross return on equity of 20.5%, a net return of 11.5% and a net return on assets of 0.47%—better than Leumi but not as good as Mizrahi. The results of IDB New York for 1985 are expected to be up on the previous year.

Bank Hapoalim's operations in New York are conducted through branch offices and no separate figures are available for them.

In general, however, it is fair to point out that stronger gains in profitability are easier in smaller banks than in larger ones, and UMB is clearly still undergoing rapid growth.

Again unlike its Israeli rivals, it has no shortage of capital resources to finance this growth—a direct benefit of the holding company structure with its outside partners. Even under the stricter regulations introduced in the U.S. recently, UMB's capital of \$43.4m. or 7% of assets, which is to grow by a further \$3m. this month through the conversion of capital notes into regular shares—is comfortably above the minimum levels demanded.

With a new branch just opened in the Orthodox Borough Park neighbourhood, making four in all, UMB's claim to be a purely wholesale bank must be taken with a pinch of salt—despite the off-street-level branch locations. The secret of the bank's success seems to be based on Krausz's formula of offering competitive rates and keeping overheads low. These, coupled with a successful advertising campaign aimed at the bank's primary target of Orthodox Jewish businessmen, have brought Mizrahi from a late start to the front of the race.



One of the first residents of Switzerland House, a housing project for the elderly in Jerusalem's Katamon quarter shows off her balcony. Built to house about 100 people, the project was made possible by a \$3 million contribution by Swiss Keren Hayesod, through Project Renewal.

Life insurance congress opens in Jerusalem this week

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

"The biggest-ever insurance congress to be held in Israel" is how the organizers are describing the Seventh Life Insurance Congress being held at Jerusalem's Laromne Hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The hosts are the Israeli Chamber of Insurance Agents, and that organization's deputy chairman, Ori Zwebner, is in charge of organizing the congress lectures and surrounding events. He and his chairman, Harold Stutzen, have announced that 650 of the country's leading agents and senior personnel of the insurance companies have registered for the congress.

Apart from specifically local topics of interest to the congress participants—such as tax planning in provident funds and manager's insurance schemes, claims, actuarial work in life insurance, the congress will hear a number of guest lecturers from abroad.

Two of these will be by insurance people for insurance people but about other, non-insurance people. Thus Anne Gibbons, a partner in a

large Scottish agency firm, will lecture on the subject of the agent's clients under the title "They are Only People." ("They" means all us non-insurance-agents.)

Another clue to the kind of plots against innocent civilians that insurance agents indulge in when they get together, may be gleaned from the lecture on "The Winning Strategies for Marketing," by Ariel I. Prentice, who is deputy-president of M.D.R.T. This is an international organization of the most successful life insurance salesmen in every country which, as its name—Million Dollar Round Table—suggests, is open to those who have notched up sales of life insurance of \$1 million or more.

M.D.R.T. has 22,000 members around the world, of whom some 16,000 are in the U.S. Israel boasts 170 members of this exclusive clique, and these have their own preliminary get-together tomorrow.

The third guest lecture will be delivered by Bill Stanley, the managing director of TAC Training International, a management consultancy and training firm.

Iranian and French officials discuss \$1.5b. loan repayment

PARIS (Reuters).—French and Iranian officials have begun talks on France's repayment of a billion-dollar loan made by the former regime of the Shah, hoping to resolve a long-standing source of friction between the two countries, French External Relations Ministry officials said last week.

They said the Iranian negotiating team, led by Deputy Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs Mehdi Navab, began talks here with a French delegation headed by Jacques Martin, President Mitterrand's special envoy.

The contested loan was made to France's Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in 1975 to help pay for construction of a uranium enrichment plant by the French consortium Eurodif.

But after the Shah's overthrow in 1979, Iran's new rulers scrapped plans for a large-scale nuclear power industry and cancelled its contracts with France.

The loan plus interest was estimated at around \$1.5 billion in 1982, when a French Appeal Court ruled that Eurodif had illegally withheld interest payments.

Wall Street to stay firm if oil prices stay weak

NEW YORK (Reuters).—The stock market, which closed at another record high on Thursday for the seventh time in two weeks, is expected to continue firming so long as oil prices and the dollar remain weak, Wall Street analysts said.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average, the leading market indicator, jumped 15.14 points to a record 1,645.07, beating Wednesday's record of 1,629.93. Volume on the New York Stock Exchange increased marginally to 136.5 million shares from 136.4m. on Thursday.

In one of the sharpest one-day drops in history, the dollar fell almost five yen against the Japanese yen to close in New York at 181.95 yen down from 186.40 on Thursday. Analysts said sellers do not believe the dollar will firm soon and predicted a 175 yen-to-dollar level as the next plateau.

"I don't see a major pullback at this time," said Trude Latimer, market analyst at Evans and Co., an investment firm. She thinks any dips in the stock market will be minor.

Latimer attributed some of the move in auto stocks to lower interest rates. The big Detroit auto makers, General Motors, Ford and Chrysler all reported gains on Thursdays. She said the outlook for rates to remain the same or move lower also helped housing issues.

At the same time, Ricky Harrington of Brokerage Interstate Securities said: "We will probably advise taking profits at 1.660."

He said he expected some near-term difficulty at that level, which could be reached early next week. But, overall, he sees a "very bullish market" in 1986 with the advance broadening to take in stocks of smaller companies.

"The big reason for the market's move is an absence of sellers," said Harrington. "With interest rates at current levels and oil prices falling, there is no alternative but to hold stocks that you have," he added.

The stock market "defies gravity and keeps on going," said Don Kinsey, analyst at Brokerage Dean Witter Reynolds.

TOURISM BRIEFS

By GREER FAY CASHMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TAXI DRIVERS are brushing up on their manners in the hope of winning a prize in the "Courteous Taxi Driver Competition" jointly organized by the Ministry of Tourism and the Airports Authority. The competition, to be held this April and May, aims at improving the service and behaviour of drivers. Volunteers will distribute questionnaires in Hebrew and English to people as they enter cabs at Ben-Gurion Airport. The completed questionnaires can be placed in attached, specially stamped envelopes, and mailed to the ministry. They can also be deposited at Government Tourist Information Offices or at hotel reception desks.

Members of the ministry's control division will conduct spot checks on drivers during the campaign to make their own evaluations. Winners will be judged by a jury representative of the two organizing bodies. The most courteous drivers will receive their awards at a special ceremony in June.

OPHIR TOURS is offering a choice of incentives to El Al passengers to Europe, effective till March 10. People travelling on El Al can get a 50 per cent discount on rooms in tourist-class hotels for up to six days, or they can rent a car for one week for between \$1-\$3 per passenger, depending on the type of car. Kilometrage is unlimited. AUGUST 24 has been designated as the official opening date for Centre One, the complex at the entrance to Jerusalem, which will include a hotel, commercial facilities and transport depots. The project is within easy walking distance of the Caesar hotel on Jaffa Road, which is in the process of completing a vast expansion programme. Tourists seeking accommodation close to the capital's Central Bus Station will soon have a large choice of three, four and five-star hotels.

NEW MAPS in English and in Hebrew of Nimrod's Fortress, Megiddo and Korazin have been released by the National Parks Authority, which has also published an informative map of the 37 sites in which the country's national parks are located. Sites are clearly marked and numbered on one side of the map. On the reverse is a brief explanation of the historical background of each site. A special 14-day admission ticket to all 37 sites is available for \$5 from the National Parks Authority, 4 Rehov Rav-Akuf Makleff, Hakirya, Tel Aviv.

ISRAELI PARTICIPANTS at the recent international tourism fair in Madrid were happy to entertain a royal visitor. The fair, which attracted 12,000 participants from 106 countries, was visited by King Juan Carlos, who made a point of stopping at the Israeli stand to exchange pleasantries.

GLIDING ENTHUSIASTS who want to improve their style between now and the end of March can take advantage of special courses now offered in Rumana. Total cost for a week's tuition, first-class accommodation in a Rumanian resort centre, return air fare and travel tax is under \$500. Instruction in the gliding schools is in English, French and German. Details from travel agents. STRAWBERRY Dainties is the title which Jerusalem's Inter-Continental hotel has given to the strawberry festival which continues till the end of the month. The menu of hot and cold strawberry delights includes 26 choices of pancakes, pastries, cream and ice-cream palate-pleasers, all made with strawberries. PALM SPRINGS, California's desert playground, has been culturally enhanced by the prestigious Armand Hammer art collection, which will be on view at the Palm Springs Desert Museum till March 9. The collection includes works by Michelangelo, Van Gogh and Picasso and has been shown in various cities around the world, including Jerusalem.

Turkey's foreign debt up 6 per cent in 1985

ANKARA (AFP).—Turkey's foreign debt rose to \$22,789 billion in 1985, showing an increase of 6 per cent.

According to preliminary data for 1985, the ratio of foreign debt to National Gross Income was 43.9 per cent. This ratio was 33.2 per cent in 1982, 36.7 per cent in 1983 and 43.6 per cent in 1984.

The cause of the high increase in foreign debt in recent years was short-term debts.

Turkey's short-term debt was \$2.164b. in 1982, but rose to \$6.439b. in 1985.

Of the short-term debt, \$3.177b. belongs to various foreign exchange accounts held by Turkish workers

and other Turks living abroad.

Meanwhile, Turkish wholesale prices in January rose by 4.5 per cent, figures from the State Institute of Statistics showed, while the figure given by the Under-Secretariat of the Treasury and Foreign Trade was 3.8 per cent, economic sources reported on Thursday.

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ONE-ON-ONE CROSSWORD

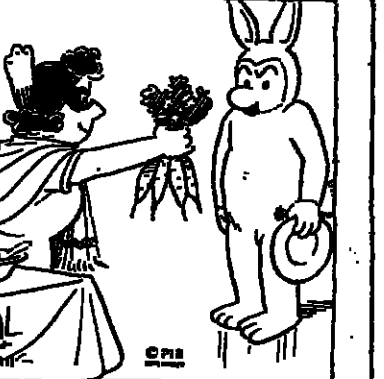
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ACROSS

- Gem which dietitians suggest can be improved by iron (10)
- News agency thanks Nazi police (4)
- Relative size of army reversal in Brazilian city (5)
- Bore everyone to the very limit? (9)
- Criminal purpose in proposal (8)
- Essential tritium put into medicine bottle (5)
- One who applauds a striker in the belfry (7)
- In conclusion anger makes angry (7)
- Don't stand for new version on Wilde (3,4)
- Pine was turned over and cut with it (7)
- Speed of agency typist given a circular letter (5)
- Knew operatic song was a bloomer (8)
- Scoundrel concerned with proving will (9)
- Back to a woman, but not the same one (5)
- Not the top team (4)
- Made another estimate of wild deer swallowing asses (10)

DOWN

- With the exception of the north it is a storehouse (4)
- No longer used to those rainy days? (3,2,4)
- It rectifies poem written to popular princess (5)
- Noisy follower of a lightning strike (7)
- Hazel maybe admired by the King of Spain's daughter (3,4)
- Ringed around a round in a ring (5)
- Didn't get others to pay his debts, so stop being agitated (6,4)
- Cross because poetry supports backward art (8)
- They should reveal well-chiselled features (10)
- Correct procedure for the earliest regimental commander (8)
- Georgia snubs Fanny's old flames (3,4)
- Frisson is a football club's answer to vandalised entrance (7)
- Makes fixtures for Football Association's short-sided teams (7)
- Thought listlessly of not having to pedal the bike any more? (5)
- Article 51 standing all by itself (5)
- He has a degree worth only 9/10ths of a degree (4)



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QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Leading sheep
- Financial gain
- Claimant of throne
- Timber
- Rough file
- Soak
- Courage

DOWN

- Red Indian tent
- Group of cattle
- Turn
- Reflect upon
- East European river
- Slit hat
- Decorated
- Eccentric
- Unconscious state
- Famous tsar
- Root vegetable
- With painted checks
- Sound of explosion
- Pontifical
- Den of ill-fame
- Surgical fibre

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B R O O K S L I G H T S
S K K K
C O T T A G E S A V E N U E
P O R T A T T Y N
I A B E V L E
D E E P T E M P L E

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Across: 1, Read; 3, Upset; 6, Gum; 8, Provided; 9, Annual; 10, Nocturnal; 11, Emperor; 12, Agents; 13, Mail; 15, Tragedy; 16, Spouse; 17, Disturbed; 20, Expire; 21, Trade; 22, Lighters; 23, Dish; 24, Spear; 25, Lama; 26, 1. Repentant; 2, David; 27, Galilee; 28, Understudy; 29, Sidi; 30, Tramp; 31, General hospital; 32, Miles; 33, Messenger; 34, Red Sea; 37, Dated; 38, Knees; 39, Deive.

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From stability to growth

THE 1.3 PER CENT fall in the consumer price index for January – the first such decline in nine years – adds poignancy to the debate over the renewal of economic growth that has in recent days become a major controversy between the Labour Party and the Likud, with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i as the leading disputants.

When the party-political noise is filtered out of the dispute to make its real signal audible, it boils down to two highly divergent views of recent economic developments and of the course of economic policy they indicate. On the one side of the fence, there is the view of Prime Minister Peres that the first stage of the economic recovery programme has been crowned with success, and that the time has come to proceed to the second stage – the revival of economic growth. On the other side, Finance Minister Moda'i holds that the stability that has been attained is still fragile, so that a premature rush into renewing growth may undo all that has been achieved so far.

It is trite to restate that long-term economic policy cannot be swayed by the statistics for a single month or even three months. And yet, in its first three months, the stabilization policy brought inflation down to an average monthly rate of 3.8 per cent, compared with the average of 15.4 per cent a month in the preceding 12 months. And in the following three months, November to January, the monthly inflation rate fell further to an average of 0.5 per cent, with no indication that this trend is about to reverse itself in the months ahead.

As the months go by, the evidence hardens that the stability that has been achieved is not merely the result of a repression of inflation by administrative price controls and of a freeze of the exchange rate and of real wages that will not be sustainable for long. There has been no sign of shortages or of a black market – the usual accompaniments of repressed inflation. Thus, stability is becoming real and the dire warnings that it is still very fragile gradually lose their credibility.

Matching success has been achieved on the second front that the economic recovery programme had to fight – the balance of payments. In 1985, the civilian import surplus has shrunk by some \$860 million, and despite a \$400 million rise in defence imports, the overall import surplus has thus declined by about \$460 million. American emergency aid, of \$750 million this year, has further bolstered our foreign payments position. The appreciation of the European currencies against the dollar has improved our terms of trade in dollar terms.

In addition, there is the windfall of the collapse of oil prices and the fall of other commodity prices, which may improve Israel's foreign payments position in 1986 by more than an extra \$300 million.

There is therefore clearly a case – and the resources to back it – for embarking without delay on that revival of economic growth which was the declared purpose of the economic recovery programme. Not only is there nothing to be gained from sitting tight on stability for its own sake, but much is to be lost. The resources now available for the renewal of growth will not be there forever. American emergency aid was a one-time shot in the arm, the favourable terms of trade may turn against us and, last but not least, the acquiescence of the wage earners in keeping real wages at a sharply eroded level is bound to wear thin quickly if there is no sign that economic policy shifts gears to renewed growth. In all respects, time is more likely to work against us than in our favour.

It is, however, far from clear what kind of growth the contestants in the present debate have in mind. Mr. Moda'i is clearly – and rightly – mounting the barricades against any kind of "instant growth" that would reflate the economy by opening the fiscal valves and would bail out indiscriminately any business that has been forced to the wall by the stabilization policy, thus saving old jobs instead of creating new ones.

The Labour Party and the Histadrut, on the other hand, do not seem to be much clearer about the kind of growth they want to renew here and now. If they are bent on shifting into reverse gear, raising real wages and savings firms and jobs, they will belie all they have supported so far. If they believe that triggering off a much-needed spurt of investments, with infusions of cash from "growth funds," will banish unemployment overnight, save the development towns from being disaster areas, or produce the structural changes that all agree are needed for long-term stable growth, they are wrong and are misleading the public.

Investments have a maturation period of years. Their effect on output, productivity and employment will become visible only after a considerable lapse of time. And since 70 agorot of each shekel invested are spent on imported capital goods, the immediate employment effect of new investments is likely to be small.

This does not mean that part of the resources that have been set free by the policy of the economic recovery programme cannot be set aside to mitigate the worst of the hardships inflicted by that policy, and to redress its social injustices. But it should clearly be kept in mind that corrections and adjustments of this kind are, in the short run, concessions to justified demands for social justice. They are concessions to economic growth, not its product or synonymous with it.

It behooves Prime Minister Peres, who has entered the fray of the debate over growth, to better clarify his own and his party's stand on this issue. If, as some of his statements last week indicate, he does not mean a counterproductive renewal of "instant growth," but the fundamental revival of the economy's performance and structure that is needed; if he holds, at the same time, that economic policy must be the servant of social needs and not their master, he should charge his colleagues and assistants with serving upon Mr. Moda'i a revised budget that would clearly show what his order of priorities is.

REACHING FOR THE STARS

JOHN FARRAR

IN HIS article "Star Wars – a Hollywood Concept," (*Jerusalem Post*, February 11) Joe Franklin serves up a concoction of half-truths, non-sequiturs, simplifications, and flamboyant put-downs. He makes one – and only one – irrefutable point: that Israel's decision to participate in the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative should be preceded by a careful evaluation of the costs and benefits. His assumption that this has not been done, however, is questionable, considering the long months that have passed between the initial U.S. invitation and the government's acceptance. The more reasonable assumption is that our elected representatives in the appropriate ministries performed just such an evaluation.

Moreover, the time was certainly adequate for opponents to make their views known. One suspects that his claim that the issue has not been carefully looked at is really an expression of his disappointment with a decision that is not in accord with his own preferences. I will limit myself to only a few points. The Franklin article quotes Herbert Lin and *Scientific American* to "prove" that SDI is not technically feasible. Yes, there are many who have questioned the programme on technical grounds – although a great many of the oft-quoted claims of technical infeasibility have been shown to have been rushed into print, full of errors, by authors who were apparently motivated by a desire to protect their own concepts of deterrence strategy, their commitment to disarmament at any cost or their antagonism to the Pentagon in general and Reagan in particular. For almost every leading scientific critic there is an equally qualified proponent, such as Dr. Robert Jas-

trou at Dartmouth (which, incidentally, is just as prestigious as Princeton, which Franklin points to in his argument that only second-rate schools will support SDI).

It should also be noted that the Soviets, who have long had a much more clandestine space weapons and anti-missile research programme, would hardly be as vehement in their opposition if they really believed the concept to be a technological non-starter. Or does Franklin take Soviet rhetoric at face value?

It may well turn out that the U.S. president's vision of a perfect missile defence is not realistically possible. So what?

A significant degree of defensive capability might well make the difference between disaster and annihilation. Moreover, such arguments typically ignore the several ways in which a judiciously deployed defensive capability can enhance survivability. This, in turn, would enhance deterrence by injecting greater uncertainty into the plans of a would-be attacker. Nor does the criticism address the very real capability of a working defence to provide a shield against an accidental missile launch or an attack by a lesser nuclear power. In spite of the efforts and hopes for non-proliferation, existing evidence leads to the conclusion that sooner or later some potentially dangerous states will acquire a nuclear capability (including Gaddafi's Libya, if he lasts long enough). In fact, the knowledge that the major nuclear powers have a defensive shield may actually be a boon to non-proliferation.

FRANKLIN ARGUES that participation in SDI will take place at the expense of research in other, more pertinent forms of Israeli defence

needs and of more humane, peaceful needs. This is not at all clear. In Israel's case, we are largely talking about electronic high technology and the aerospace industry – both key elements in our nation's ability to defeat numerically superior enemy tactical missiles and aircraft. A number of SDI concepts may also be directly applicable to defences against tactical and intermediate missiles – something liable to be of great benefit in any future Middle East war. Moreover, we are talking about participation in SDI projects by Israeli scientists who are for the most part already working in related defence fields and whose SDI funding would come from the U.S. as an addition to, and not a substitute for, current domestic and foreign sources.

Franklin also argues that U.S. security procedures would demand the compartmentalization of Israeli science. Does he really believe that our high-technology weapons-related research and development has, to date, been conducted in any different fashion?

These same security procedures, he argues, will prevent Israel from acquiring any of the key military technologies or access to use of commercial spinoffs. He could be right. But only if our leaders are so naive as to fail to ensure that the details of the agreement (which are still to be worked out) preclude this from happening. I, for one, have more faith than that in the officials of our Ministry of Defence and defence related industries.

FRANKLIN bemoans the "militariza-

tion of space." Where has he been since Sputnik and the first intercontinental ballistic missile some 25 to 30 years ago? Space is already heavily militarized and will undoubtedly be a critical combat arena (perhaps the decisive one) in any superpower war. Besides its great potential contribution to enhanced deterrence, SDI-related research will allow for a better understanding of this combat arena and a greater capability to compete therein. Also implicit in his argument is the flawed assumption that weapons and military capabilities create tensions and conflicts and cause wars. This is putting the cart before the horse.

FINALLY, the Franklin article notes that "Israel was founded, at least in part, through international perception of the inadmissibility of holding a people hostage to a perpetual threat of destruction. Israel's government today would be well served by the same principle." I could not agree more with this statement. But, its intended conclusion is a non-sequitur. We have lived for over a generation as hostages to perpetual threat of destruction as encompassed in the insane theory of Mutual Assured Destruction. SDI is an attempt to get out of that blind alley – an attempt whose feasibility can only be determined by thorough research. Developing any significant degree of defence can only increase deterrence in the long run. Moreover, the mere existence of the concept, and of the apparently real resolve to pursue it, have already led the Kremlin to offer greater concessions in arms control than ever before. Even if nothing else comes out of SDI, this will have made it worthwhile.

But, of course, something else, not touched upon by Franklin, will come out of it, and that is the conquest of space far earlier than otherwise. Many scientists opposing SDI do so basically because they believe military space research will be undertaken at the expense of the civilian. This is simply unrealistic. Military space efforts do gobble up a great share of the total resources devoted to space-related sciences at any given time. But the reality is that without the military programmes the total investment would be far smaller. The highly desirable programmes which civilian space scientists would like to see paid for out of the funds being devoted to the military simply wouldn't be funded at all if the military programmes were all cancelled, while many of the results and knowledge derived from these military programmes will eventually find their way into non-military science and commercial exploitation of space.

Expansion into space, with eventual access to unbelievably huge new sources of energy and raw materials (along with many other long range benefits), is both a necessary future for mankind and the greatest dream and adventure ever embarked upon. Any and every way that Israel can take part in it should be seized upon. Moreover, it just might incidentally address a more mundane Israeli concern. Whenever Israel is somewhere at the forward edges and engaged in exciting, dream-filling endeavours, the likelihood increases of attracting bright, modern and idealistic American Jews to give Israel a try.

The writer is head of the Department of Strategic Studies at the International Research Centre on Contemporary Society.

It's not enough to hit at Kach

DAVID TWERSKY

SEVERAL months ago, President Herzog appeared at the pro-price tag on attempts to cooperate with the Arab parties: their visceral unpopularity with mainstream Jewish voters is hardly immaterial to the struggle of democracy against racism. Why Israeli Arab parties should be untenable and undesirable allies in a campaign against anti-Arab racism makes sense only in so far as one accepts the price demanded by the right for their tacit, ad hoc cooperation in the fight against Kach.

Nevertheless, Labour's failure to include the Arab-based far-left in a coalition does have recognizable political as well as educational benefits. By reaching rightwards, the Likud is forced to define just how far it would go in opposing a decision to give up territory, or administrative powers, to Jordan and the Palestinians. At the same time, it reduces the chances for a right-wing coalition by removing the radical right from the "acceptable" consensus.

There are also ideological considerations involved. The broad front approach is defended by the kibbutz member who heads the anti-racism, extra-parliamentary front group, *Maaneh*, as necessary in order to isolate Kahane. "We must separate the fight against Kahane from the general political debate." The man running the Labour Party's anti-Kahane campaign, which is affiliated with *Maaneh* and shares its assumptions, put it this way: "As a dove, I see the occupation as responsible for creating the environment in which racism can flourish. But we need to build a common programme with the right in order to remove the idea of expulsion from the national agenda."

This strategy forces the centre/left to concentrate on distinguishing nuances in the right. These nuances attempt to distinguish the "acceptable" from the radical right, with the line falling somewhere just beyond the Likud and running through Gush Emunim.

THIS LINE is drawn at the cost of obfuscation in critical areas of con-

so is its debate with the right. The real problem concerns the political price tag on attempts to cooperate with the Arab parties: their visceral unpopularity with mainstream Jewish voters is hardly immaterial to the struggle of democracy against racism. Why Israeli Arab parties should be untenable and undesirable allies in a campaign against anti-Arab racism makes sense only in so far as one accepts the price demanded by the right for their tacit, ad hoc cooperation in the fight against Kach.

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career is heartening, but it does not go far enough.

The haemorrhaging of the Likud's support to the extreme right has served to radicalize the party, with the consequent reemergence of Ariel Sharon as a major political force and a serious contender for Likud leadership. And, indeed, if Likud is to run as a party of the radical right, Sharon is their most logical candidate.

In presenting, in August, his "Master Plan" to combat Arab terrorism, Sharon championed the proposal raised by West Bank settlers for the expulsion of Arabs sympathetic to the PLO. His proposal left some questions (purposefully?) unanswered. Would all Arabs who support the establishment of an independent PLO-led state in the West Bank and Gaza be deported? Would they have to advocate the full PLO programme of the destruction of the Israeli state in order to be subject to deportation? Would they have to be found guilty in a court of law for having engaged in the "armed struggle"? Only by its lack of clarity was Sharon's plan less offensively phrased than Kahane's.

Sharon also advocates attacking PLO offices in Amman, to derail the unfortunately remote chance of negotiations with King Hussein. He has also raised high the flag of annexation, demanding that Herut move forcefully away from Camp David at its next convention. It is the glaring contradiction in the Likud position – that annexation and democracy are compatible – that permits the extremist right to thrive. Sharon may be stealing their thunder, but at the price of adopting their programme.

THE PROBLEM with the proposed ban is not only that, as its price for agreeing to get Kach, Likud is also aiming to get the P.L.P. nor that perhaps half a dozen established parties with Knesset representation, including the ultra-orthodox parties, the annexationist ones, and Rakah, all pose theoretical and even actual "threats to democracy": not that one cannot know where the banning of parties will ultimately lead. The most significant problem is that the anti-racism bill is not a civil rights bill for Israeli Arabs, for whom life in Israel, unchanged except for the delegitimization of Kach, still remains problematic.

THE CONSENSUS to ban Kach and end Kahane's parliamentary

IN THE debate raised by Sharon's proposals, Labour's Haim Bar-Lev explained that the real issue was whether or not Israel would enter a peace process seeking to resolve the dispute in a way that Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians could all live with. If not, he warned, "we will have many Afulas," referring to the anti-Arab mini-pogrom last August in which Kahane figured prominently.

The importance of Bar-Lev's analysis lies in his breaking through the false bottom of the anti-racism consensus long enough to make the connection between the fight for peace and compromise and the struggle against right-wing extremism at home.

Israeli democrats must likewise extend the struggle against Kahane to its logical targets. This will bring them to the realization that peace with Jordan and the Palestinians, and expansion of the civil rights of Israeli Arab citizens, are the only alternatives to the carnage that Kahane's false messianism will lead to: annexation, repression, civil bloodshed, international isolation and total war.

Israel needs the hope of peace, and the hope enshrined in its liberal and democratic Declaration of Independence, in order to reinvent its own future. It must be a future envisioned neither by Kach nor by Rakah, but a perpetual struggle with ambiguity and moral complexity: a future of relative peace, open borders and Arab-Israeli reconciliation.

David Twersky is the editor of *Spectrum*, the Israel Labour movement monthly.

READERS' LETTERS

CANCER INSURANCE

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir – As an oncologist in Jerusalem, I would like to reprimand the Harel-Shiloah Insurance Company for the institution of their new insurance policy entitled, "Struggle against Cancer." An application for this policy was sent, unsolicited, to my house and undoubtedly to thousands of other households.

There is no medical or social justification for the existence of cancer insurance. Problems such as time lost from work and forced early retirement are not unique to the cancer patient, but characterize many severe illnesses such as coronary artery disease. Conventional health insurance policies which provide for such losses cover cancer and other illnesses alike.

The idea of special insurance against malignancies merely heightens the cancer phobia already prevalent in our society which causes many patients to delay seeking medical treatment until their cancer has reached an incurable stage.

As a new immigrant from Canada, it hurts me to see that Israel has become a truly capitalistic society in which private enterprise is allowed to exploit Israeli citizens without any restraints by either its own conscience or by government legislation. ELLEN WARNER-EFRATI, MD Jerusalem.

SIXTY-PLUS

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir – I refer to your article of January 24, "The Grey Panthers," which refers to the organization, Sixty-Plus, whose membership is open to all Israelis over the age of 60. How does one register for membership?

ISAAC SHOR Hadera.

CIVIL DEFENCE

To the Editor of *The Jerusalem Post* Sir – It would surprise me very much if the public were prepared in any way for the eventuality of war, considering the disgusting state of public shelters in the city and of private ones in houses.

In our block of flats, there is a shelter in the basement: it is damp, has no electricity and no water, and is filthy. It is locked and, in an emergency, only God knows who has the key. There are 24 families living in our block and the same situation probably exists in all the other blocks of flats in this area.

Haga, or whoever is responsible for shelters, never makes a check, so no one cares. Haga claims there are gas masks for all the population. Where do we run to in an emergency to find these gas masks? Why isn't such information posted on notice boards for the public? Do we have to wait for a catastrophe before these matters are taken care of?

JEFF COHEN Tel Aviv.

ISRAEL, BRITAIN AND THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION

אגודת ישראל, בריטניה וחברות העמים
Members and friends are invited to a Luncheon Meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 1986, at 1.00 p.m. at Beit Sokolow, 4 Kaplan Street, Tel Aviv. The Guest will be:

Mr. DAVID KIMCHE
Director-General,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem

Cost of luncheon: Members – NIS 12 each; Guests – NIS 15. Reservations with remittances should be made to the Hon. Sec. P.O.B. 16266, Tel Aviv 61162, or by phone to Mr. Furman's Secretary (Gila) (03-614394) between 9.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. (Sunday-Thursday).



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